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Wilmington Town Crier

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MAY 8, 2025

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16 PAGES

Residents approve town budget, receive long-term plan

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent

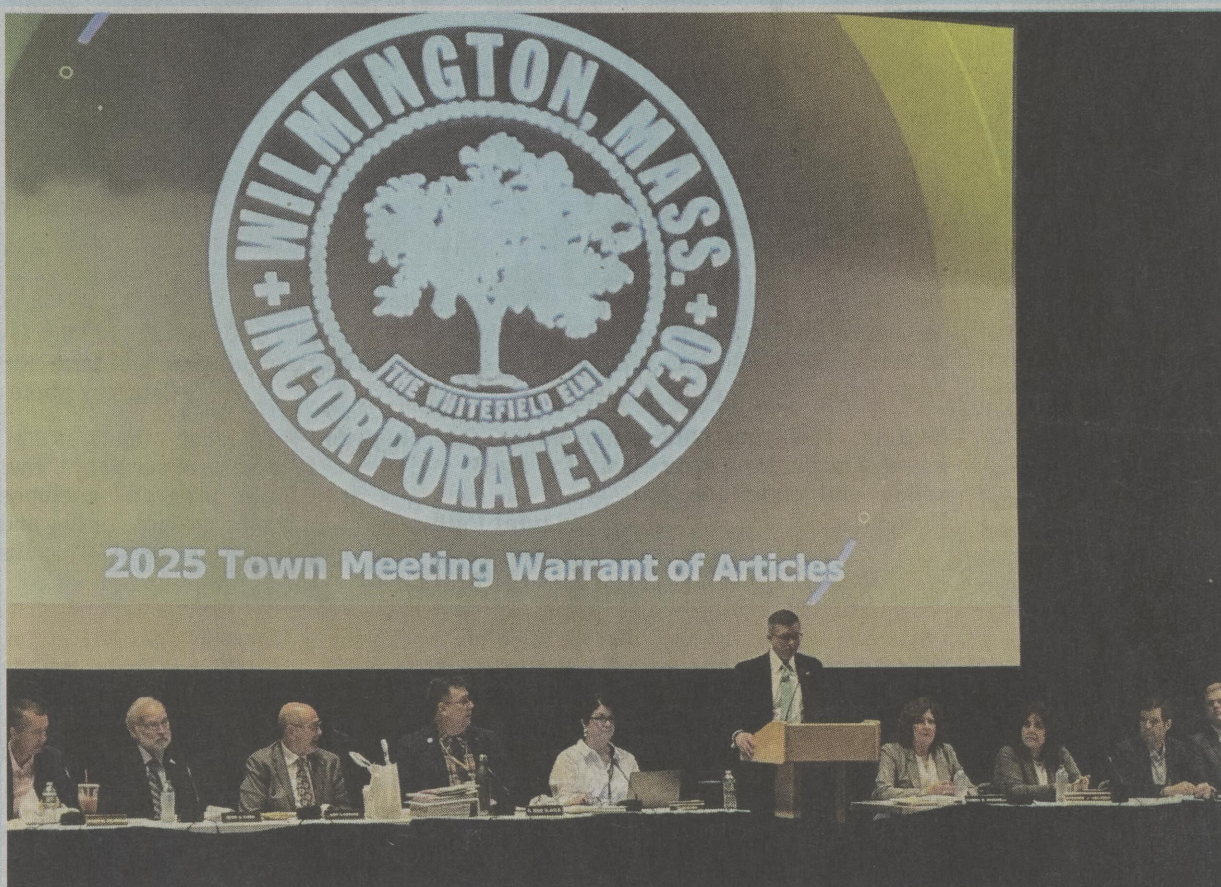
WILMINGTON — The fiscal year 2026 town budget was approved at the May 3 Town Meeting. Town Manager Eric Slagle began with a presentation thanking those who contributed to the budget from various departments. He named the goals of the budget which were to maintain a conservative fiscal approach while putting forth important projects, maintaining staff and renovating and updating buildings and infrastructure.

The non-capital budget total was \$154,100,236, which represented a 12.48% increase from the previous year. Some of the major budget increases were the inclusion of non-union CO LAs from both fiscal year 2025 and 2026, the increase in the cost of insurance,

and a new trash contract with a significant increase. The trash contract came in at \$316,000, which Slagle said was an increase of 12%. Slagle mentioned that the town clerk's office would add a senior clerk to assist with digitalization and public records requests, and the IT Department would add a technician specifically to assist with MUNIS. He maintained that the town needed sufficient IT safeguards, and staffing would ensure cybersecurity.

Public buildings planned to bring on another G2 custodian and a painter. Slagle explained that the town had two new buildings coming online and hundreds of thousands of square feet in space to maintain. While there were some cost savings like the financial software change

BUDGET | PAGE A7W



▲ Town Moderator Jonathan Eaton presides over the special Town Meeting and annual Town Meeting at Wilmington High School on Saturday, May 3, 2025. (KMG Howlett photo)

Residents vote no on multi-family zoning district again

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Wilmington residents voted no on the proposed multi-family overlay zoning district warrant article proposed at the May 3, 2025 special Town Meeting. This meeting was held during the annual Town Meeting.

Planning Board member Terence Boland shared his support for the article in that the potential district would contain multi-family housing already and that the zoning would help to actualize the walkable streetscape desired in the town's Facilities Master Plan.

Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich reminded residents of their previous dissenting votes on this same proposed zoning district at a special Town Meeting in December 2024 and at last year's annual Town Meeting. She clarified that the MBTA Communities Act signed in 2021 requires only zoning — which refers to allowed uses — and not construction. Some new information presented at this time was that

the law was ruled constitutional and that the attorney general's office can compel compliance.

Gingrich restated the criteria of what the zoning district must consist: 50 acres, half of which must be within a half-mile of a train station, with a unit capacity per the state's spreadsheet of 1,248. She also mentioned that the state's spreadsheet treats each space as if it is vacant and it doesn't account for septic, sewer, or wetlands to the full extent — so what can truly be built in the zoning district will be lower than that number.

Through public feedback and restrictions such as groundwater protection, they proposed an overlay district split between West Street, Burlington Avenue, Deming Way, and Main Street. Each subdistrict would have a maximum three-story height limit (with three stories allowed on Main Street only if the first floor is commercial), 20-foot setbacks, and between 1.25 and 2 parking spaces per unit.

The West Street proposed subdistrict contained 100-104, already a

40B development; a single-family home at 108; a storage facility at 114; and existing multi-family housing at 121.

The Burlington Avenue subdistrict would be only the Metro Apartments parcel, and the Deming Way subdistrict is only the Wilmington Housing Authority parcel of multi-family housing. The Main Street section contained everything including the train station through the Hyundai dealership on one side of Main Street.

With this proposed district, Gingrich supposed that residential development overtime would be an additional 177 units on Main Street and 12 units at 108 West St., totaling less than 200. She mentioned that 123 communities have adopted compliant zoning districts per the MBTA Communities Act, and the town's deadline to do the same is July 14.

She also described how the town receives million dollars of grant funds from the state to fund projects like culvert and sewer extensions and intersection rebuilding which would be lost

through noncompliance.

Town Manager Eric Slagle stated that he could understand the opposition to the statute.

"This statute does not and cannot compel construction," he said.

He also confirmed that the town is permitted to include in the zoning district properties that already have multi-family zoning, as other towns have become compliant by taking a similar approach to the proposed district. He lastly said that the attorney general's office could decide where the zone is created if the town doesn't comply.

Select Board member Lilia Maselli explained her opposition, saying that the town is already struggling to keep businesses, and that many will leave and be replaced with housing projects. She also disagreed with the idea of Main Street being pedestrian-friendly and suggested that the state may not approve the town's proposed zoning district with fewer units possible than the spreadsheet counts.

MBTA | PAGE A7W

Residents approve articles related to money and land for new substation

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — There were multiple warrant articles for residents to consider approving at the annual Town Meeting on May 3 related to the potential North Wilmington fire substation.

The idea was first introduced by Town Manager Eric Slagle during discussion of article six, proposing \$3.5 million be set aside for substation construction. He reminded residents that this substation has been on the minds of Wilmington residents for a while.

Slagle shared that they identified a location on which to move forward with plans. The property is adjacent to the Harnden Tavern and the medical center on Salem Street. Slagle mentioned that the parcel is 13 acres, which

the town purchased in 1990, and one acre was set aside at that time for a future substation.

He said that being adjacent to the medical center was a benefit to the location. They would require an access easement to use the medical center's driveway but eventually pull the substation's access drive further from the intersection of Salem Street and Woburn Street.

Slagle added that the town wanted to acquire the railroad right of way owned by the medical center and transfer it to the protection of the Water Department.

Of the 13 acres, Slagle stated that they would use two acres for the fire substation. They would create ample parking, sidewalks, septic, and additional parking for the Harnden Tavern and possibly for the

STATION | PAGE A2W

Residents approve consent agenda, vote down term limits

By **LIZZY HILL**
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Wilmington's annual Town Meeting took place on May 3, 2025, lasting from 9 a.m. to almost 5 p.m. Over 300 total residents attended at some points in person to vote.

In the opening of the meeting, Town Moderator Jonathan Eaton highlighted the colors provided by Wilmington Minutemen, recent re-

sidents tragically lost and the departing and newly appointed members of the Select Board, School Committee, Shawsheen Tech School Committee, and Housing Authority.

This year's consent agenda contained articles two, three, four, seven, eight, nine, ten, and eleven. These pertained to hearing reports, authorization to enter into agreements with banks, PEG Access, the 4th of July and Memorial Day celebrations, the VFW and American Legion, and compost and subsurface sewage.

Resident Kevin MacDonald asked about the security of the town's funds, claiming that one bank alone held \$90 million on behalf of the town. Eaton clarified that the article

in question merely provides authorization for the town treasurer/collector to enter into agreements.

Finance Director/Town Accountant Stephanie Frontiera replied that the town's funds are secure and spread between a wide range of local banks and investments.

The vote to pass all the articles in the consent agenda was approved.

Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand then provided a report on the new elementary school. In his report, he reminded residents that the process began with Wilmington identifying need and being selected into the MSBA for the Wildwood School. They had created a committee who explored many options

which were then narrowed down to a preferred option of a new pre-k through grade five building.

He described the benefits of combining schools such as minimizing costs of operations from building three schools and minimizing transitions. He also shared the design plans so far and mentioned that the project will be voted on at a Sept. 13 special Town Meeting.

Article three proposed the payment of unpaid bills. The motion made was to pass over this article, and it was approved.

Residents voted in favor of accepting Eagleview Drive, Murray Hill Circle and Eleanor Drive per article 24.

They also approved the transferring of a parcel on

Noah Street to the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission. Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich explained that this was surrounded by existing open space areas with walking trails.

Resident Donald Leiskau, who had submitted petition article 32, explained that his article proposed allowing elected officials to serve no more than two full consecutive terms in each office, with exceptions for partial terms, in order to create a dynamic political landscape reducing incumbent favoritism. He suggested that the current landscape was stagnant.

Select Board member Lilia Maselli shared her opposition for the article,

as she didn't want to discourage volunteers or create restrictions that would leave vacancies. Greg Bendel said he wanted to keep volunteerism alive in town. Megan Jones also noted that longstanding elected officials bring invaluable institutional knowledge.

One resident suggested that this article would be better in principle if there was more competition for local elections, but in this case it may squash the ability for elected officials to do their jobs.

The measure failed with 76 votes in the negative and three votes in favor.

The last article that came up during random draw was article 30: to see if the town would vote to

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Join in on the fun at the next Playful Pathways program

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, May 13, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, May 14, 2 p.m.
Thursday, May 15, 2 p.m.
Saturday, May 17, 2 p.m.
Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, May 12, 6-8 p.m.
These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in.

Intro to Chromebooks

Monday, May 12, 7 p.m.
Technology Librarian, Brad, provides an intro to Chromebooks. He'll talk about navigating the device, using Google Drive's cloud storage, and Google's alternative to Word and Excel, Docs and Sheets.

Cookin' the Books

Tuesday, May 13, 12 p.m.
If you love to cook and enjoy talking about food and sharing recipes, then this group is for you! Grab a copy of the cookbook, register on the library's event calendar, and record your recipe. Bring your dish to the meeting and enjoy sampling everyone's dishes! Featured Cookbook: Start Here by Sohla El-Waylly.

Wellness Wednesday with the Yoga Loft

Wednesday, May 14, 3 p.m.
Instructors from the Yoga Loft will help you de-stress on Wednesday afternoons throughout the month of May. Join us for gentle yoga with elements of meditation. Please bring your yoga mat.

Craft & Chat

Wednesday, May 14, 6 p.m.
Enjoy making a craft while socializing with others! This craft group is held by longtime crafter Rachelle Toth. All craft supplies will be provided.

Novel Ideas

Thursday, May 15, 7 p.m.
Enjoy reading fiction? Join the library's fiction book group led by Adult Services Librarian Erin Driscoll. Please stop by the library to pick up a copy of the featured book. Featured Book: Happiness Falls by Angie Kim.

Needleworkers

Friday, May 16, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your



▲ Don't miss out on the next Playful Pathways program: Time to Play, on May 16 at 11 a.m. Kids will explore all kinds of activities to learn about time and have some fun! (Courtesy photo)

Poetry Circle (VIRTUAL)

Saturday, May 17, 9:15 a.m.
Do you enjoy writing poetry? Want input on your work? If so, this group is for you! Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alebras.

Youth Programs

Bilingual Story Hour
Monday, May 12, 10 a.m.
Practice using your home language or learning a new language with the Community Teamwork Family Resource Network! Ages 0-6

STEAM Team
Monday, May 12, 6 p.m.
Learn and have fun at the same time in this engaging STEAM program! Grades K-5

Preschool Storytime
Tuesday, May 13, 10 a.m.
Join us at Preschool Storytime! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement for children ages 3-6! Ages 3-6

DnD 101 for Teens
Tuesday, May 13, 6 p.m.
New players who wish to join our library campaign (or who just want to learn about the world's most popular roleplaying game) should attend our 101 sessions, held monthly. Grades 6-12

Time for Twos
Wednesday, May 14, 10 a.m.
Time for Twos includes books, rhymes, music and

movement for children aged 2! Age 2

Playful Pathways: Parent Book Club (VIRTUAL)

Wednesday, May 14, 7 p.m.
This monthly book club will cover the 7 essential life skills featured in Ellen Galinsky's book, The Mind in the Making. Because this event will be held via Zoom, children are welcome to be in attendance. Recommended for parents and caregivers of children ages 0-5

Baby Time

Thursday, May 15, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Baby Time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 0-23 months

Manga Tryouts

Thursday, May 15, 3:30 p.m.
Have a say in manga purchased for the teen collection with this club! During each meeting, we'll sample 1st volumes of different manga and vote on whether it should be added to WML's collection. Grades 6-12

Playful Pathways: Time to Play

Combination of Free Cash, overlay surplus and appropriations will fund design

STATION FROM PAGE 1

medical center.

Slagle shouted out the Select Board members and the town engineer for their assistance in this regard. He also mentioned that he had worked with town counsel in preparation for the meeting.

The requests for money from a combination of free cash, overlay surplus, and appropriation would fund the architectural design of the building and easements to the property. Slagle estimated that construction would not start until after next year's annual Town Meeting.

Resident Kevin MacDonald suggested that the town seek to borrow the architectural designs for the substation from another nearby town who may have recently constructed a fire substation.

Joanne Skukas said that the town had waited 63 years for a substation and it was desperately needed. The \$3.5 million for substation construction was approved.

The next article in this regard was article 20, which proposed that an acre of land on Salem Street be transferred from the care of the Conservation Commission to the town, for general municipal purposes including the construction of a fire substation. This article also stated that the acre being transferred would be combined into a single parcel with another parcel owned by the town already set aside for a fire substation by Article 24 of the 1990 annual Town Meeting.

MacDonald asked how

large the entire parcel would be, as it appeared larger on the displayed map.

Slagle stated that the total area would consist of 13 acres.

MacDonald claimed that this was located in the groundwater protection district, and he stated that he'd like to see the town negotiate the related easement for free.

The vote in favor of this article passed.

Article 22 then proposed that the town set aside \$25,000 for the purposes of acquiring easements on all sides of the property located at 500 Salem St. The easements would be used to access and install utilities to serve the proposed North Wilmington fire substation. It was also a question of whether the town would

year's sale is Saturday, June 14 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Applications are open May 1 - 21, and the seller fee is \$20. Applications now available.

Check Out Our Library of Things This Summer

Did you know Wilmington Memorial Library circulates more than just books? Check out our Adult, Teen and Youth Library of Things for fun and useful items to use this summer. Items include: a pickleball set, disc golf, lawn games, volleyball and badminton, a tent and much more! See what's available at <https://wilmlibrary.org/lot/>.

Book Store Next Door

Regular hours are back at The Book Store Next Door! The bookstore is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Museum Passes

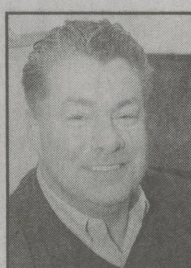
The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting www.wilmlibrary.org/services/mp.

WML In-Person & Virtual Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs and is required for all virtual programs, as you will need to register in order to receive the Zoom link. You can register on our website at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling (978) 658-2967.

It's Your Money

by Todd Brisbois



THINGS FOR EXTENSION FILERS TO KEEP IN MIND AS THEY PREPARE TO FILE FOR AN EXTENSION: PART II

Extension filers should request missing or incorrect documents directly from employer or other payers

If a taxpayer is waiting to file because they're missing a form like a W-2 or 1099, they should contact their employer, payer or issuing agency and request a copy of the missing or corrected document. If they still can't get the forms, they may need to use Form 4852 as a substitute.

Taxpayers who didn't file in April and didn't request an extension should still file as soon as possible

Anyone who did not request an extension by this year's April 15 deadline should file and pay as soon as possible. This will stop additional interest and penalties from adding up. There is no penalty for filing a late return for people who are due a refund

Some members of the military have different deadlines. Special deadline exceptions may apply for certain military service members and eligible support personnel in combat zones. The Department of Defense's MilTax online tax software is available to service members and their families, regardless of income.

Taxpayers in disaster areas may have more time to file

Taxpayers living in an area impacted by a recent natural disaster may have an automatic extension of time to make various tax payments. Visit Tax Relief in Disaster Situations on IRS.gov for more information.

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Rotary Club Trivia Night

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Rotary Club is hosting their annual Trivia Night to benefit the Club's Annual Scholarship on Friday, June 6 at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus Hall. Come and join us for this evening of fun, laughs, and some keen competition to find out which four-person team will come away victorious and leave the hall with the coveted trophy.

Will the Drinking Team with a Trivia Problem 3-peat? Maybe the Men (and Women) in Blue would like to mount a comeback! Masonic Boom is always competitive, and the Holy Terrors can never be

counted out.

Come on out and take the challenge! Friends, businesses, and Ringers are all welcome!

Tickets are available at \$100 for a table of four... and all proceeds go to the Wilmington Rotary Scholarship Trust fund. Wilmington Rotary and their members award an average of \$25,000 a year to Wilmington residents who are graduating from high school.

This Fundraiser along with our annual auction in November enables us to continue providing these generous scholarships to our well-deserving college-bound students.

Steve Bjork is again scheduled to be our Trivia Master of Ceremonies, so it is guaranteed to be a fun evening. Town Moderator and rotary member Jonathan Eaton is compiling the series of three rounds of 25 questions each, which are being stored in a locked vault in the cellar of the new Wilmington Town Hall and School Administration Building. Don't try it!

This is always a great evening of laughs and friendly competition. There will be a modified 50-50 raffle. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the trivia starts promptly "right about 7 p.m." Cash bar and this is

a BYOS event "Bring your own Snacks." Pizza, appetizers, chips, treats, hummus? ...Bring it on and make the competition jealous!

For tickets, contact Greg Sadowski, 978-657-6167, George Hooper, 978-265-1232, Steve Peterson, 978-804-5439, Chris Neville, 978-479-1500, Mike Burns, 508-574-7897, Carolyn Bell, 978-657-6167, or any Wilmington Rotary Club member.

The Wilmington Rotary Scholarship Fund is a 501-3C Charitable Trust. Business sponsorships are welcome.

Conference room at town hall now named after Dr. Phyllis D. 'Dee' Genetti

AGENDA FROM PAGE 1

name a conference room at the new town hall in honor of Dr. Phyllis D "Dee" Genetti, who served on the Commission on Disabilities for over 30 years.

Commission on Disabilities member Rob Oliveri shared that he served with Genetti for eight years out of her 36 years

and seven months on the commission. He described how Genetti became disabled after a motor vehicle accident in 1987 and lost the ability to walk, and then in another accident she lost the ability to speak. Despite this, she joined the COD, obtained a PhD, published two books on traumatic brain injury, and developed a

television show in conjunction with WCTV.

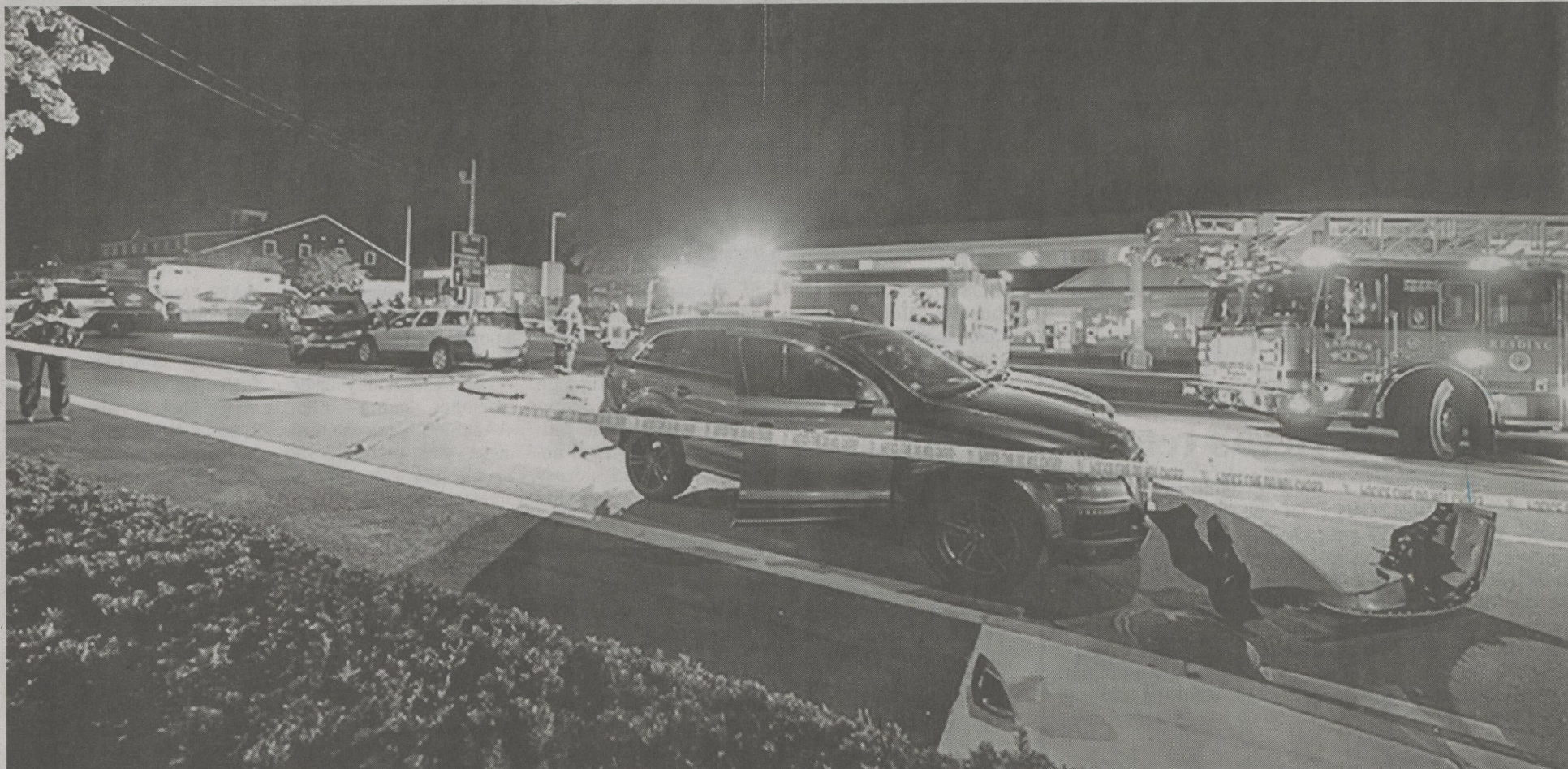
Oliveri said that Genetti was committed to allowing the full participation of disabled people in all activities through her volunteerism and selflessness.

Gary DePalma said that Genetti sacrificed herself on behalf of others and brought a distinct view-

point on disability into the COD.

Stephen Turner also suggested that they create a small plaque that tells Genetti's story in addition to posting her name outside of the conference room.

The article was unanimously approved. The meeting ended afterward with a vote to adjourn.



Police suspect reckless driving to blame

Reading motor vehicle crash turns fatal

By PATRICK BLAIS

READING — Local firefighters on Friday night worked frantically to free a local woman from a mangled Ford Fusion in order to render medical assistance to the mortally injured party by Main and Hopkins Street, but the victim tragically passed away.

According to the Reading Police Chief David Clark, who revealed preliminary details about the fatal four-car crash by Cal's Creamery in a prepared statement issued well after midnight on Saturday, investigators believe the late night calamity was likely caused by reckless driving behavior.

Specifically, the deceased victim was reportedly traveling towards Main Street from Hopkins Street at around 10:05 p.m. on Friday night and had a green light to proceed. However, while traveling through the intersection, say police, the victim's Ford was broadsided on

the driver's side by a 2006 Volvo.

Besides being accused of speeding at the time, the operator of that Volvo — who has not yet been identified by authorities — allegedly ran a red light at the busy Route 28 crossroads by the Shell Gas Station and the Stoneham line.

The impact of that initial collision reportedly carried so much force that the spun-around Ford was plowed into a third vehicle, while the Volvo hit a fourth car in a secondary impact that caused injuries to another passenger.

"According to the preliminary investigation, the Volvo allegedly ran a red light at the intersection of Main and Hopkins streets and struck the driver's side door of the Ford," Clark and Deputy Police Chief Christine Amendola said early Saturday morning.

"The Ford then spun into traffic traveling northbound on Main Street, col-

Just after 10 p.m. Friday night, companies were dispatched to Main Street at Hopkins Street in Reading for a major vehicle crash with entrapment. Crews arrived to find one patient entrapped and several others injured. The entrapped victim was extricated and all patients were transported to local hospitals. One of the victims was pronounced dead.

(Photo Credit: Matt Kiminsky & Live Boston News)



liding with a 2014 grey Audi Q7. The Volvo [also] collided with a gray 2018 Toyota RAV4 after the initial collision."

First responders, who were waiting to notify the local resident's next-of-kin before releasing the identity of the deceased accident victim, received nearly a dozen 911 calls from witnesses in the wake of the crash.

As firefighters worked to free the trapped accident victim, emergency service

workers rendered initial first aid to the driver of the Volvo and transported the motorist to an unspecified area hospital for treatment. A passenger in the Toyota RAV4 was also hurt and readied for transport to the hospital at the scene.

Due to the severity of the crash, police closed down access to Main Street between South and Hopkins streets while firefighters worked to extricate the injured motorists from their vehicles.

Reading police, who continue to look into the circumstances of the tragic crash along with mem-

bers of the Mass. State Police's Collision and Accident Reconstruction team, are asking anyone who witnessed or may have information about Friday night's crash to contact them at 781-944-1212.

As news spread around town over the weekend about the incident, many area residents took to social media to offer their condolences to the victims family. The fatality has also led to some debate around the increasing prevalence of speeding and other risky driving behaviors in and around Reading.

"People treat the streets of Reading like a race track lately... too many cars flying through neighborhoods," commented one such resident, who recalled seeing a speeding vehicle almost flip over on Sunnyside Avenue just a few weeks prior.

"This is so sad," agreed another social media user. "Reading has a serious problem with people blowing through red lights and stop signs. I see it every day at Pleasant and John [streets] and regularly at Pleasant and Main, [which is] one block from the police department."

Upcoming local events

May 9 & 10, 41st Annual Tewksbury District Art Show, Tewksbury Memorial High School, Free. Friday- 6:30 p.m. band and chorus, 7 - 9 p.m. art show. Saturday- 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. art show.

May 10, Annual Postal Carrier Food Drive, leave non-breakable, non-perishable items in bag for mail carrier to benefit the Tewksbury Community Pantry.

May 10, Power of Flowers Bloom Festival, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Grow Greenhouses, 1 Greenhouse Road, Tewksbury. Plants, gifts, garden items. pojproject.org.

May 17, Tewksbury Garden Club Plant Sale, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Rain or Shine. Grounds of the Tewksbury Public Library. Cash or card. Annuals, perennials, vegetable starts, indoor plants, pollinators.

May 17, Friends of the Library Bake Sale, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Tewksbury Public Library.

May 17, Billerica Small-

pox Cemetery walk. Learn about the impact of smallpox in the 1600 and walk along the beautiful Middlesex Canal with guide Marlies Henderson. PublicHealthMuseum.org for tickets and information. This three-mile walk starts at 10 a.m. and departs from the Middlesex Canal museum lot.

May 20, Friends of the Library at Mac's Dairy Farm at 1863 Main St. A portion of the proceeds from ice cream sales will be donated to The Friends but you must mention The Friends when you make your purchase to donate.

September 13, 2025- Wilmington High School Class of 1975 50th Reunion, live band, dancing, buffet dinner, cash bar. Pay April 2 - July 1 - \$90, July 2 through last minute walk-ins - \$95. Register and pay at : <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/high-school-class-reunion-temp-65333/items?cart> Questions? Steve Brander skbrander@gmail.com Reunion Organizers: Steve Brander / Vin Scifo / Hel-

en Ryba

Thursdays, Saturdays, and the first Sunday of the month, Public Health Museum, 365 East Street, Open for indoor and campus tours. Check website for times. PublicHealthMuseum.org

Book Store Next Door, Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Wilmington Public Library. All proceeds support library programs. Next to Wilmington Public Library.

Sundays, Lowell Streetcar Museum, 11:00AM - 4:00PM, Adults \$3, seniors and youth age 3-12 \$2, children under 3 are free. Cash only. 25 Shattuck Street, Lowell.

Wilmington Town Museum, Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Harnden Tavern, 430 Salem Street (Route 62), Wilmington.

Middlesex Canal Museum, Saturdays and Sundays, Noon - 4 p.m., 71 Faulkner Street, North Billerica.

Book Stew Review

'Show Don't Tell' by Curtis Sittenfeld

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

These 12 stories are thoughtful, witty, and as comfortable as an old terrycloth bathrobe. I didn't want them to end. They're not overly simple, not challenging, but brimming with intelligence and insight.

They feature people you know or could know,

and, if you're a middle-to-upper class white woman, you have met on innumerable occasions but not known what was going on behind the suburban scenery.

There's either momentous sexual tension, or there isn't any at all, which can be just as shattering.

The most memorable stories are about: budding writers in an MFA

program; a mom's racism publicly revealed and reviled; a babysitter for a pre-Amazon Jeff Bezos and his wife; and a scholarship girl blissfully reconnecting with a former friend from an elite private high school.

Quote: "You can say whether people have published books. But you don't get to say whether they're writers."

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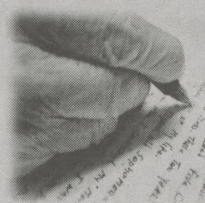
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Letters to the editor

Wilmington shows up for Hometown Hero's return

To the editor,
THANK YOU WILMINGTON! We asked and you answered the call. We were humbled by the number of people who gave their time and effort to give our Hometown Hero the respect he deserves.
We thank you and the Edwinson Family thanks you.

For additional coverage of Cpl. Edwinson returning home, please visit the Veterans Facebook page through <https://www.facebook.com/wilmingtonnavs>

Sincerely,
The Wilmington Veterans Services Department

Cpl. Edwinson's family grateful for support

To the editor,
We, the family of Cpl. John E. Edwinson, Jr., wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the community for the overwhelming support and compassion shown during his homecoming. Your presence, kind words, and gestures have provided us with comfort and a long-awaited sense of closure.
The past couple of weeks have been filled with a lot of emotions. We have all have been told stories of Uncle John from our parents and grandparents but never had the opportunity to get to know him or grow up with him by our side. Uncle John's last living sister made us promise, before her death in 2017, to find her brother and bring him home to be buried with his parents. After 83 years, that has finally happened with the help of many people and organizations.

The trip to Logan Airport escorted by state police, the Wilmington police, the US Marine Corp, the Patriot Riders, Wilmington Veteran's Services and the hearse from Nichols Funeral Home all made this long-awaited day finally feel real.

Arriving at Logan and lining up alongside many others on the tarmac, including Wilmington police, Wilmington fire, Massport police, Boston police, Massachusetts State Police, Massport fire, several honor guards and countless other Massport workers in a show of respect and solidarity to our uncle.

Then finally seeing that American Airlines plane turning the corner and knowing uncle John was onboard that plane brought out emotions unlike any we can describe. His flag draped coffin coming out of the belly of the American Airlines plane and being placed in the hearse by the six marines all while Gunnery Sergeant Grajales stood off to the side and watched over him as he has since his remains left Hawaii.

Words cannot describe the feeling or emotions of having uncle John finally home after 83 years of being buried on a hill alongside his fellow marines in Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands where he lost his life on Sept. 24, 1942.

To the local veterans' organizations, including the Wilmington Veteran's Services, thank you for your unwavering dedication and for honoring uncle John with such dignity. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and have touched our hearts profoundly.

To the residents of Wilmington who lined the streets and sidewalks upon uncle John's arrival home, your attendance at the memorial service and the procession was a powerful testament to the unity and strength of this community.

The sight of so many standing in solidarity was both humbling and uplifting. To the Wilmington Police Department, fire department and the Massachusetts State Police, your contributions and support in bringing uncle John home will never be forgotten. From escorting the family to Logan Airport, to bringing him to his final resting place, to the honor guard at his funeral, we thank you wholeheartedly.

To the Patriot Riders who accompanied us to and from Logan and to the many other veteran motorcycle groups who attended the funeral procession, we thank you for your support. To the Irish American Police Officers Association Pipes & Drums, thank you for providing beautiful music at the service. The bagpipes made a truly memorable and touching tribute to uncle John's life. Your performance helped us all to celebrate his life.

To the United States Marine Corps who worked tirelessly, thank you for bringing uncle John home to Wilmington and making the Edwinson family whole for the first time in 83 years. Thank you for the funeral honors which were a deeply moving tribute and provided our family with a sense of dignity and closure. Lastly, to Margaret and staff from Nichols Funeral Home, we are so grateful for your guidance and support throughout this process. Thank you for working with the various veteran groups & the state and local agencies and for planning a beautiful tribute to uncle John's life. We deeply appreciate the time, effort and exceptional service you provided. We will never forget your kindness and generosity.

Cpl. John E. Edwinson, Jr. served with honor and bravery, and it is through your collective support that his legacy will continue to live on. Thank you all for helping us honor his memory in such a meaningful way.

With heartfelt gratitude,
The Family of Cpl. John E. Edwinson, Jr.

Fifth annual #ShopAAPIMonth kicks off across state

BOSTON — The Massachusetts House Asian Caucus and the Asian Business Empowerment Council (ABEC) have launched the fifth annual #ShopAAPIMonth, a statewide campaign encouraging residents to support Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) small businesses during AAPI Heritage Month.

The campaign began in 2021 as a grassroots response to rising anti-Asian sentiment during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now in its fifth year, #ShopAAPIMonth has evolved into a growing movement to promote economic visibility, cultural pride, and long-term investment in AAPI businesses across the Commonwealth.

"We are very proud of how many years we have been doing this challenge and excited by the growing momentum around participation," said Representative Tackey Chan (D-Quincy), Chair of the House Asian Caucus. "We hope to build on this challenge and continue to spotlight the impact our AAPI businesses have on the Massachusetts economy."

"We see every month as #ShopAAPIMonth," added Qingjian (Q.J.) Shi, lead of ABEC. "But May gives us a dedicated platform to drive visibility, deepen engagement, and highlight the impact AAPI entrepreneurs have on our economy."

Last year's campaign generated strong community engagement, with over 8,500 estimated accounts reached across social platforms. Posts featuring AAPI entrepreneurs, local shops, and neighborhood events saw engagement rates over 40% — well above industry norms.

"#ShopAAPIMonth is a chance to celebrate and uplift the creativity, resilience, and contributions of AAPI-owned businesses across Massachusetts," said Representative Tram T. Nguyen (D-Andover), Vice Chair of the House Asian Caucus. "These businesses aren't just storefronts — they're cornerstones of our communities and powerful engines of our local economy. But as we face the threat of rising tariffs, the stakes are higher than ever. Now is the time to stand with our AAPI entrepreneurs — not just in May, but every day of the year."

State leaders urge residents to take part by discovering or revisiting local AAPI-owned businesses and amplifying them online.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Visit: Support your favorite

AAPI-owned business — or explore a new spot in your neighborhood.

Tag: Post about your experience using #ShopAAPIMonth, tag the business you visited, and @abec_ma + @asiancaucusma.

Be Seen: The Asian Caucus and ABEC will feature select stories all month long to spotlight the businesses powering our communities.

Legislators from across the state echoed the importance of representation, economic inclusion, and supporting AAPI entrepreneurs.

"AAPI Heritage Month is about recognizing the tremendous influence and vital contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and the role AAPIs have played in shaping American history," said Representative Vanna Howard (D-Lowell). "Please join us by visiting AAPI local businesses in your community, providing essential goods and services throughout our communities, and helping to amplify and empower AAPIs that are working to shape our region — the people, businesses, and neighborhoods that make us a vibrant and thriving community."

"Shop AAPI Month is a celebration of our vibrant

AAPI community and our contributions to Massachusetts' economy and culture," said Representative Erika Uytendhoeven (D-Somerville). "By supporting AAPI-owned businesses, we uplift local entrepreneurs and strengthen the diverse fabric of our Commonwealth."

"Small businesses are the backbone of our local economies," said Representative Donald H. Wong (R-Saugus). "This initiative is a great way to both support our AAPI businesses during AAPI Heritage Month and invest in our local economies."

"Let's take this opportunity to come together and uplift our AAPI business owners across the Commonwealth," said Representative Tara Hong (D-Lowell). "In the face of challenges we all share, now is the time to show strength through unity — by supporting one another and building up our communities for a better future."

"Some of the best ways to show your support during AAPI Heritage month is to shop and patronize our local AAPI businesses and celebrate the beautiful diversity of all the cultures that make up the AAPI community," said Representative Amy Mah Sangiolo (D-Newton).

One-day power-packed student public health immersion

TEWKSBURY — Registration is now open for Exploring Public Health: Careers, Colleges, and Connections, a free summer public health program for high school students held on Friday, June 27, 2025 at the Public Health Museum in Tewksbury.

The popular student Outbreak! program has been reimagined as a one-day power-packed immersion into the world of public health. Students will learn the history of public health, hear from professionals in the field, meet undergraduate college representatives, and talk to alumni of the program who have chosen public health career paths.

Students will explore topics such as occupational health nursing, emergency response, mental health, epidemiology and more. Students will also participate in an outbreak investigation and prepare for a Zombie Apocalypse situation.

The schedule also offers a live Q&A with public

health professional and a panel of college representatives from public health programs in the area.

Students will work with alumni peer mentors who have gone on to pursue college and careers in public health.

"The role of public health in our world has never been more important" said Dr. Alfred De Maria, board member of the Public Health Museum and the former Massachusetts state epidemiologist. "We look forward to welcoming the next generation of public health professionals."

An additional virtual component will occur in the fall through a series of online programs that students can attend or watch later! The C3 program is open to all high school students free of charge, but registration is required.

Register at: <http://bit.ly/4iAMgqM> Questions? outbreak@publichealthmuseum.org

This year's Outbreak! is

EXPLORING PUBLIC HEALTH: CAREERS, COLLEGES AND CONNECTIONS

A FREE Program for High School Students

6.27.25

- One day in person event at The Public Health Museum (9:00 - 4:30)
- Learn about careers in public health
- Hear from public health leaders
- Meet representatives of undergraduate public health programs
- Participate in a Zombie Apocalypse

This one-day immersion is a must for anyone interested in pursuing a health care related path.

Register Today!

Visit our website for more information: www.publichealthmuseum.org

About The Public Health Museum
Celebrating 30 years, the museum explores the history of public health through artifacts and exhibits. Learn about infectious

diseases, patent medicines, food safety and pasteurization, early mental health, nursing/education, early dentistry, and more.
publichealthmuseum.org

Kane, McClymer honored with certificates of achievement at Stonehill

EASTON — Students were honored with certificates of achievement during the 2025 Scholars Celebration, held Tuesday, April 29. Visit Stonehill College's website for more information.

- Hayden Kane of Wilmington
- Kelly McClymer of Wilmington

About Stonehill College
Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is

a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Tewksbury - Wilmington

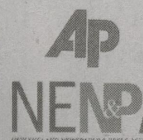
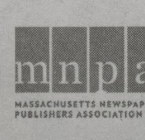
Office located at:
36 Commerce Way #410, Woburn, Ma. 01801
(978) 658-2346
E-Mail: Office@YourTownCrier.com
Publication No. 635-340
A Publication of the Woburn Daily Times, Inc.
36 Commerce Way #410, Woburn, Ma. 01801, published every Wednesday

Founder: Capt. Larz Neilson
Publisher: Peter M. Haggerty
News Editor: Ryan LaRoche
Advertising: Bruce Hilliard
Sports Editor: Doug Hastings

Subscription prices: Payable in advance.
In Wilmington and Tewksbury: \$90 a year. Elsewhere \$105 a year.

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Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

Movie Review:

'Thunderbolts'

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Recipe:

New England
Clam Chowder Page B2



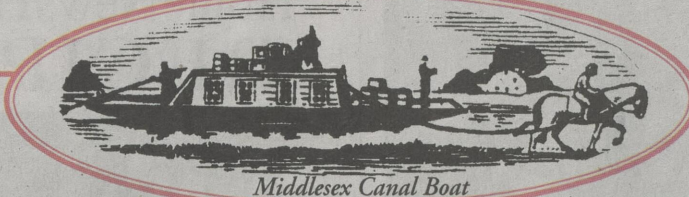
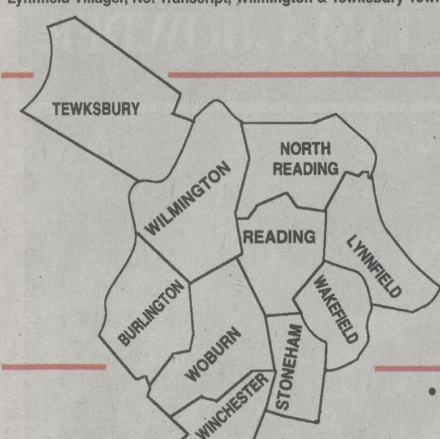
Real Estate Transfers

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MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Burlington, Wakefield),
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Winchester updates (some) code of bylaws

By RYAN LAROCHE

Winchester is attempting to do something it hasn't done in quite some time: update its code of bylaws. With the help of Town Meeting (responsible for approving each update) and the Committee on Government Regulations (tasked with making the necessary changes), several chapters and sections passed muster already (Town Meeting first took up the code of bylaw articles on Thursday) while some were postponed.

Before voting began, some residents expressed concern with the process. Town Meeting member Ann Sera said she had many additional edits she couldn't provide the Committee on Government Regulations due to there not being a public comment period.

Sera worried Town Meeting would end up writing these changes on the floor. She said Winchester needed a series of public input hearings instead of just one public information session.

Megan Blackwell, speaking as a member of the Committee on Government Regulations, said they held 22 open meetings and welcomed the public to attend each one.

"We received some feedback that we acted upon," she noted, refuting Sera's claim that the Town Meeting member couldn't submit her own edits.

Blackwell even pointed out how her committee posted some of the changes on the Town Meeting Forum.

Another Town Meeting member, Bob Deering, moved to indefinitely postpone every code of bylaw article. However, the town moderator said he could only postpone one at a time; therefore, he moved to postpone the first article. It failed with 126 against.

John Miller, another Town Meeting member, acknowledged all the work the Committee on Government Regulations put into these articles and encouraged his fellow members not to postpone them.

"This seems very easy to me," he argued, pointing to the clerical updating and procedural changes proposed.

Chapter 3 Elected Officials

Simply, the Committee on Government Regulations asked Town Meeting to amend this chapter by changing the date of the town's spring election from the last Tuesday in March to the second to last Saturday in March. The town several years ago made the switch and now the bylaws reflect that.

Town Meeting also, in this chapter and throughout, removed gendered pronouns, as most everything referred to men, especially as it pertains to voting, i.e. record HIS name, permit HIM and others in line behind HIM to vote if they arrived before 8 p.m.

Since women have been allowed to vote for more than 100 years, it only makes sense the bylaw shows that.

The Committee on Government Regulations also changed any reference of Board of Selectmen to Select Board or selectman to Select Board member since Town Meeting approved that change years ago.

Chapter 4 Town Manager

This change, at the request of the town manager, allows him or her or his or her designee to "have the authority and duty, consistent with other laws, to issue and revoke permits to specific persons to engage in the breaking or digging up of any part of any street and the removal of earth or gravel therefrom or aiding in the same."

Chapter 5 Administrative Organization

The Committee on Government Regulations said they chose to remove "awkward and confusing" language from this chapter and to change the title of the town treasurer to treasurer/collector.

For example, a sentence that originally read, "the person appointed by the town manager as town clerk shall be appointed by the town manager as town clerk shall be appointed for a term of one year and shall be a resident of the town" now reads, "the town clerk shall be appointed by the town manager."

Other changes include allowing the town manager the ability to appoint the town clerk, town engineer and town treasurer/collector for more than one year. Previously, these were the only three positions in town where the town manager had to reappoint them to one-year terms.

The town clerk, town engineer and town treasurer/collector also don't need to be residents of Winchester.

Chapter 7 Water Works and Sewerage System

The Committee on Government Regulations recommended, again, removing gendered pronouns. They also recommended adding in the word private to a section on water and sewer line construction so it now allows the town manager or his or her designee to grant

• ZONING TO B2

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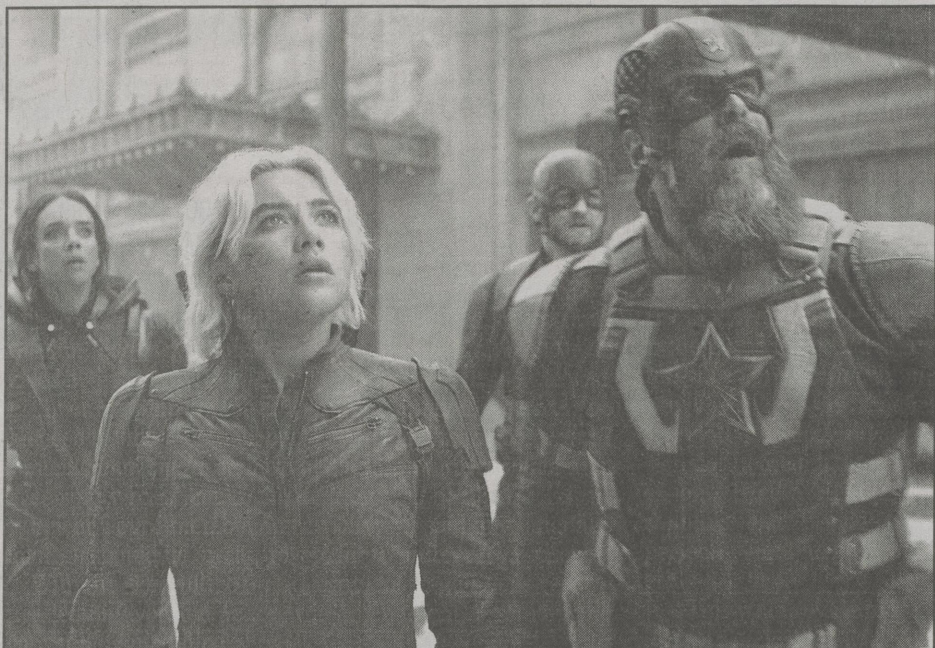
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HEROES OR ANTI-HEROES? - Superhero rejects band together to save the day. From left, Hannah John-Kamen, Florence Pugh, Wyatt Russell and David Harbour in a scene from "Thunderbolts" by Marvel Studios. (Disney-Marvel Studios via AP)

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

'Thunderbolts' is the Marvel Universe, and actor Florence Pugh, in high gear

By JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

As they so often do in Marvel Land, worlds collide in "Thunderbolts."

But in this refreshingly earthbound iteration of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, the collision isn't a matter of interplanetary strife. "Thunderbolts" has been touted as the unlikely meeting of two of the dominant forces in 21st century American movies: Marvel and A24.

This isn't a co-production, but much of the creative team and many of the stars have ties to the indie studio. "Thunderbolts" is directed by Jake Schreier, who has directed many episodes of the A24 series "Beef," and was written by Joanna Calo (also a "Beef" veteran) and Eric Pearson (a Marvel veteran). The connections go further: cinematographer Andrew Droz Palermo ("A Ghost Story," "The Green Knight"), editor Harry Yoon ("Minari") and a score by the band Son Lux ("Everything Everywhere All At Once").

Some trailers for "Thunderbolts" have highlighted these connections, perhaps in hopes of a little A24 auteur cool rubbing off on Hollywood's superhero factory. It's also a sign of how rough things have gotten for Marvel that, after a string of

misfires, it's leaning on the studio behind "Swiss Army Man" for its latest would-be blockbuster.

Does that make "Thunderbolts" a hipper superhero movie? Can you expect "Babygirl"-like scenes of Black Widow drinking a glass of milk? The answer, of course, is that "Thunderbolts" has no more indie cred than "Avatar." What it is, though, is the best Marvel movie in years.

"Thunderbolts," about a group of MCU rejects who band together after CIA director Valentina Allegra de Fontaine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) tries to erase them and their covert program, is both a return to form for Marvel and something a little different. While there's plenty of franchise building going on, "Thunderbolts" — the title of which bears an asterisk — is pleasantly stand-alone, and its spurts of spectacle more deftly proceed out of an tenderly told story.

If there's an influence on "Thunderbolts," it's less A24 than James Gunn. It borrows a little of the misfit irreverence of "Guardians of the Galaxy" and "The Suicide Squad." But Schreier's film is leaner and less antic than those movies, and it serves as an IMAX-sized platform for the increasingly obvious movie-star tal-

ents of Florence Pugh.

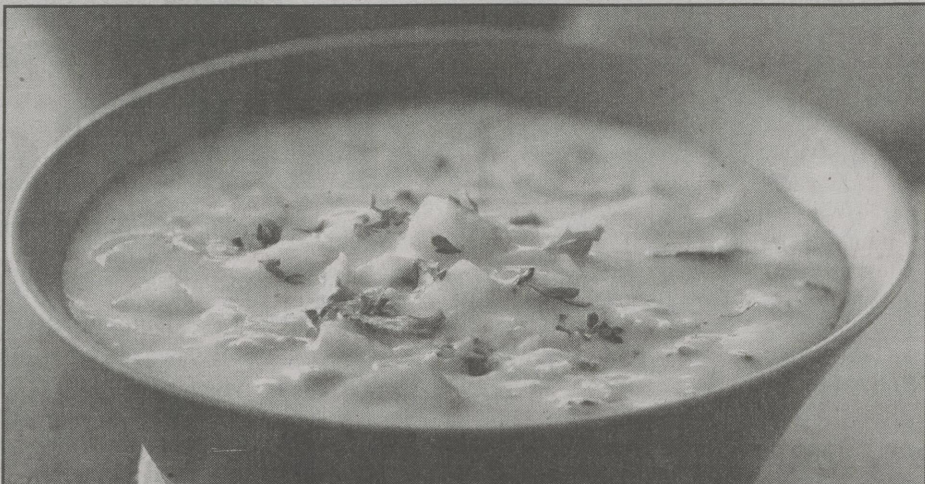
In the opening moments of "Thunderbolts," Pugh's Yelena Belova, a veteran of the Soviet assassin Black Widow program, melancholyly stands atop a skyscraper. "There's something wrong with me," she says. "An emptiness." She drops, a parachute opens, and her narration continues. "Or maybe I'm just bored."

It's a telling opening for a film that wrestles sometimes earnestly, sometimes a little glibly, with malaise and depression. Yelena is searching for meaning in her life, dragged down by guilt and shame from her past, a pain that even her relentlessly chipper father Alexei, the self-proclaimed Red Guardian (David Harbour, magnificent), can't quell. When Yelena, on a mission, brutalizes a hallway full of armed guards — a shot that, as I critic, am contractually obligated to note is styled after the famous one from Park Chan-wook's "Oldboy" — Schreier films it from overhead in a shadowy ballet.

Shadows and death drape "Thunderbolts." When Yelena is dispatched on what she says will be her last job, she's surprised to encounter others like her — include the disgraced John Walker (Wyatt Russell) and the fight-mimicking

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RECIPE

NEW ENGLAND
CLAM CHOWDER



CLAM CHOWDAH! - New England's favorite chowder from colonial days is a white chowder made with milk or cream.

- STEPS**
1. In 2-quart saucepan, cook bacon and onion over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until bacon is crisp and onion is tender; drain off fat.
 2. Drain clams, reserving liquid. Add enough water, if necessary, to clam liquid to measure 1 cup.
 3. Stir clams, clam liquid, potato, salt and pepper into bacon and onion. Heat to boiling; reduce heat. Cover and simmer

- about 15 minutes or until potato is tender.
4. Stir in milk. Heat, stirring occasionally, just until hot (do not boil or soup may curdle).
- EXPERT TIPS**
- For a creamier broth, use heavy cream and flour slurry to thicken
 - Substitute half and half for milk, use seasoned salt (1 tsp) and add frozen peas. With some bread or crackers, it makes a complete dinner.

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1/4 cup cut-up bacon or salt pork
 - 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
 - 2 cans (6.5 oz each) minced or whole clams*
 - 1 medium potato, diced (1 cup)
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - Dash of pepper
 - 2 cups milk

Taskmaster (Olga Kurylenko) — sent to the same location. After some initial tussling, they realize they — like the protagonists of "Toy Story 3" — are standing inside of an incinerator. Adding to the confusion of their predicament is a guy with no apparent powers who simply introduces himself as "Bob" (Lewis Pullman, bringing a sensitivity rarely found in these movies).

They aren't quite a bizarre Avengers, but they — including Sebastian Stan's Bucky Barnes, who joins later — are all the products of dubious government programs that instill less patriotism than their more plainly heroic counterparts. As a group, they're plagued by doubt and uncertainty, and they're more inclined to bicker than give rousing speeches. And whenever anyone brushes too closely with Bob, they drift back into the darkest chapters of their own pasts that pull them like a dead-

weight toward suicidal thoughts. Who, exactly, Bob turns out to be furthers this theme in "Thunderbolts," which never feels like it's lurching from one action set piece to another. That the final act of the movie is essentially set in a headspace, rather than above a threatened metropolis, is a testament to the interiority (not a word that often comes up in Marvel movies) of "Thunderbolts," a film that finds vivid comic-book imagery to render authentic real-life emotions. That's always been the promise of a good comic book, but it's fair to say that the Marvel movies have recently found that tone elusive. When Louis-Dreyfus, looking just as home in Washington, D.C., as she was in "Veep," as De Fontaine declares, "The Avengers are not walking through that door," it's an acknowledgment — like then-Celtics coach Rick Pitino once vowed of Larry

Bird — that "Thunderbolts" is here to make the most of what it's got. Of course, that there are, in fact, more "Avengers" films on the way slightly diminishes the sentiment. But they won't be missed in "Thunderbolts." All the assembled parts here, including an especially high-quality cast (even Wendell Pierce!) work together seamlessly in a way that Marvel hasn't in some time. Most of all, Pugh commands every bit of the movie. It's less a revelation than a big-budget confirmation of the screen power of an actor who also has gone from A24 ("Midsommar") to Marvel stardom with ease. "Thunderbolts," a Walt Disney Co. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association for strong violence, language, thematic elements, and some suggestive and drug references. Running time: 126 minutes. Three stars out of four. For more reviews see www.homenewshere.com.

• ZONING FROM B1

applications for extensions of water pipes on unaccepted or private ways.

Chapter 8 Public Order

Changes made here update procedures and laws currently in place, modernize the intent of certain sections and replace archaic language and gendered pronouns. Blackwell said this won't change how things are done in town.

For instance, it allows the Select Board to potentially designate someone to license a business to purchase or sell junk, old metals or secondhand articles. It also forces someone to comply with Mass. General Laws to hawk or peddle newspapers, publications, ice, flowering plants, meats, butter, cheese, fish or such flowers, fruits, nuts, and berries as are wild or uncultivated within the town.

In Section 11, Town Meeting approved the removal of the words invalid's children's hand carriages and replaced them with the words wheelchairs and strollers. They also approved removing the word handicapped and replacing it with person with disabilities as per the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Town Meeting did consider an amendment to a section on disorderly behavior wherein the Committee on Government Regulations removed the vague language "no person shall engage in a disorderly manner or use obscene, profane or abusive language" and replaced it with "no person shall engage in behavior that threatens the safety and well-being of others."

Town Meeting member Pamela Cort wanted to remove the word "well-being." When asked for his advice, Town Counsel Jay Talerman called it a policy question, noting how 1,000s of bylaws use these terms (safety and well-being). He added in that regard he wouldn't tell Town Meeting how to vote.

Town Meeting member Mariano Goluboff, speaking to the need for the word well-being remaining in the bylaw, said someone blowing an airhorn at 2 a.m. wouldn't violate anyone's safety but it could violate their well-being.

Select Board member Paras Bhayani said any language changes should be an improvement to protect free speech.

With the Committee on Government Regulations recommended unfavorable action, the amendment to remove the word well-being failed.

Chapter 10 Dog Leash Law

Town Meeting approved adding in service dogs to those dogs exempt from the town's leash law. The new section now reads, "the provisions of this bylaw shall not apply to any person or organization who owns, keeps or maintains any dog as part of a canine corps for the commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions while actually engaged in the per-

formance of official duties, or for a service dog whose handler's disability prevents the use of a means of control (described in a separate section)."

Chapter 11 Anti-Litter

With the Select Board expressing concerns with changes made to this chapter, Town Meeting ultimately voted to postpone the article to a time certain, the last night of Town Meeting.

Select Board member Bill McGonigle, who has shared criticism with many of these edits the Committee on Government Regulations made throughout the code of bylaws, said changing section 1.2 could create new liability for the town. That section, with the edits, reads, "Receptacle is a container such as a trash barrel for litter storage that is owned by the town or a private individual or company."

He added how some of the removed language makes the section meaningless, some added language seems ambiguous and suggested the Committee on Government Regulations made too many edits. He asked for indefinite postponement.

Chapter 14 Preservation of Historic Buildings

Town Meeting approved changes to this chapter after the Select Board and Town Meeting member Ann Sera asked for an amendment to remove several "and/or's" from a section on procedures. Part of the section involves the criteria for determination of an eligible building being a historically significant building.

The subsection includes four options; however, the Committee on Government Regulations added the words "and/or" to the end of each option, i.e. (a) xxxxx and/or; (b) xxxxx and/or; (c) xxxxx and/or; (d) xxxxx and/or.

Sera and the board argued it was too confusing and Town Meeting agreed. Talerman said he was comfortable either way. It will now just read a, b, c, or d.

Another change involves making the Historical Commission notify the building commissioner in writing of their decision to find a building historically significant. Talerman said this would provide people with more rights. He called it perfectly legal and routinely approved by the attorney general.

"This will provide more clarity and certainty," he added.

Chapter 15 Prohibition of Smoking in Restaurants and other Public Places

On the recommendation of the Committee on Government Regulations, Town Meeting approved the deletion of this entire chapter. The committee said the director of the health department and Board of Health requested this change due to their already being more stringent state laws. The Board of Health also passed its own regulations includ-

ing an act called the "Nicotine Free Generation" which limits sales of tobacco/nicotine products based on age.

Chapter 17 Regulation of New Racks

Changes to this chapter involve updating the definitions of certain words like director, news rack, permit, person, printed matter, public way, roadway, and sidewalk.

Chapter 18 Public Shade Trees

While the Select Board recommended unfavorable action, 3-2, Town Meeting supported the changes thanks to the support of the Planning Board and Public Shade Tree Committee.

Changes will add four at-large members to the Public Shade Tree Committee as opposed to one. David Miller, chair, said people want to join this committee and adding new members will only amplify the amount of work they can do.

While edits to those chapters all passed or were indefinitely postponed, they were seen as the "non-controversial" ones. It only became more difficult for Town Meeting going forward. In fact, Town Meeting had to take up Chapter 2 Town Meeting subsection by subsection (and as of Monday afternoon's Middlesex East publication deadline, the meeting paused after passing section 1.2)

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Town Meeting did make it through this chapter, though they ultimately chose to postpone it to the fall. The Select Board called it an "important chapter of the bylaw" wherein the Committee on Government Regulations made some unnecessary edits.

They attempted to remove or change the words "hackney carriage" even though that phrase exists in other parts of the bylaw. The board also pointed out how some of the definitions in the code of bylaws aren't consistent with ones in the town charter, and the charter controls the bylaws.

Because the changes were considered too numerous to fix on the floor of Town Meeting, members voted to send it back for further consideration in the fall.

Chapter 2 Town Meeting

This chapter contains both non-substantive changes like using the website to notify Town Meeting members, slightly more substantive changes like changing the amount of days the warrant can be posted prior to Town Meeting and significant changes like moving from using Roberts Rules to govern Town Meeting to Town Meeting Time.

Before getting hung up on section 1.3, Town Meeting did approve section 1.2 by substituting the word bulletin board for website, as in where the warrant shall be posted.

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

24 Cedar St was sold to Helgason, Catherine L and Helgason, Anders C by Zhang, Han and Zhang, Chunyang for \$865,000 on 04/14/25

13 Sandy Brook Rd was sold to Pajot, Anthony and Lucas, Sophie by Zeng, Chang Y for \$830,000 on 04/14/25

20 Wall St was sold to Atrius Mso LLC by Auburn-Oxford T and Gutierrez Jr, Arthur J for \$22,000,000 on 04/15/25

50 Wilmington Rd was sold to Bhagat, Chinmay and Namjoshi, Nivedita P by Cuoco, Rocco and Mande, Geraldine F for \$795,000 on 04/18/25

LYNNFIELD

60-REAR Lynnbrook Rd was sold to Brainstorm Homes LLC by 932a Lynnfield Street RE and Tourkistas, Heidi for \$500,000 on 04/18/25

934 Lynnfield St was sold to Rf Homes LLC by Tourkistas, Heidi M and Tourkistas, Michael J for \$670,000 on 04/18/25

7 Mohawk Ln was sold to Mcconville 2nd, James M and Mcconville, Jennifer M by Hill, Jonathan and Hill, Rebecca R for \$1,485,000 on 04/16/25

Phillips Rd was sold to Fuchs Ft and Fuchs, Danielle L by Bourque, Debra R for \$1,150,000 on 04/17/25

NORTH READING

52 Brassie Way #52 was sold to 63 Terrace Avenue Irt and Silva, Andrena M by Green, Elizabeth S for \$675,000 on 04/15/25

14 Deer Run Dr was sold to Nelson, Cynthia and Nelson, Mark by Sawyer, Scott and Sawyer, Sabina for \$1,450,000 on 04/15/25

300 Martins Lndg #404 was sold to Frontiero, Victoria L by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$499,999 on 04/16/25

300 Martins Lndg #101 was sold to Kurkul, Nora and Kurkul Jr, William J by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$793,725 on 04/16/25

READING

9 Grand St was sold to Daniels, Leslie and Cornelissen, Curt by Gil, Christopher W and Ingham, Elizabeth for \$975,000 on 04/17/25

62 Linden St was sold to Bertin Ft and Bertin, Margaret A by Fraser, Arthur L and Fraser, Mary B for \$1,065,000 on 04/14/25

451 Pearl St was sold to Ricklefs, John and Keffe, Andrea by 451 Pearl Street Cbc LLC for \$1,753,000 on 04/14/25

111 Salem St #111 was sold to Kaplan, Michael S and Kaplan, Anne by Xie, Wei and Zhuang, Zexin for \$1,030,000 on 04/17/25

16 Talbot Ln #16 was sold to Saifudeen, Zubaida and Saifudeen, Moiez by Johnson Woods Realty Cor for \$1,625,000 on 04/17/25

STONEHAM

5 Dewitt Rd was sold to Vacca, Kevin and Mistovich, Rudy by Busteed, Robert F for \$936,999 on 04/15/25

100 Ledgewood Dr #219 was sold to Joyce, Kenneth and Joyce, Elaine by Campbell Jr, John W and Caruso, Gail M for \$489,000

on 04/18/25

193 Park St was sold to Aho, Jonathan and Aho, Lindsay C by McMahon, Mildred O for \$622,500 on 04/18/25

TEWKSBURY

5 Arlington St was sold to Mackey, Melissa A by Prentice, Loretta D for \$506,000 on 04/17/25

850 Main St was sold to Lahtoi Realty LLC by 850 Main Realty LLC for \$530,000 on 04/18/25

9 Park Ave was sold to Dunne, Andrew J and Dunne, Marykathryn C by Mannala, Anthony and Mannala, Kelly for \$635,000 on 04/14/25

83 Pomfret Rd was sold to Wang, Calvin C and Wang, Angela S by Peters, Theresa A and Buckley, David A for \$950,000 on 04/18/25

677 Shawsheen St was sold to Jackson, Karen M by Jackson, Karen M and Jay, Jacqueline M for \$255,000 on 04/14/25

WAKEFIELD

43 Eustis Ave was sold to Hart, John T and Hart, Jennifer A by Cdg Investments LLC for \$960,000 on 04/16/25

26-28 Hamilton Rd was sold to Jefferson, Daniel P by 26-28 Hamilton Road Rt and Wager, Gloria S for \$781,000 on 04/15/25

47 Harrison Ave was sold to Stilwell 3rd, Gordon and Rotger, Amy by Chin, Betty T for \$990,000 on 04/14/25

17 Laurel St was sold to Cook, Kelsey and Tran, Andrew by Cook Ralph E Est and McCormack, Judith for \$615,000 on 04/18/25

336-336A Main St was sold to Gemini Real Estate LLC by Naumkeag Rt and Colombo, Peter F for \$700,000 on 04/15/25

WILMINGTON

54 Chestnut St was sold to McCreary, Raygan and McCreary, Kayla by Opendoor Property J LLC for \$893,000 on 04/14/25

9 Grand St was sold to Dse Construction Inc and Luiky Com Inc by Ozcandarli, Sarah for \$680,000 on 04/18/25

119 Nichols St was sold to Bonnell, Victoria A and Kurland, Benjamin P by Michels, Jordan S and Tunai-Michels, Barbara for \$745,000 on 04/18/25

278 Shawsheen Ave was sold to Bonin, Shaine R and Bonin, Ashley C by Chiocciariello, Carl and Chiocciariello, Jennifer for \$630,000 on 04/17/25

WINCHESTER

29 Allen Rd was sold to Breen, Ryan and Connolly, Margaret by S&k Boodakian Ft and Boodakian, Stephen for \$1,815,000 on 04/15/25

31 Coolidge Rd was sold to Xiong, Yuhong and Han, Siting by Santamaria, Angelo R for \$2,000,000 on 04/15/25

67-69 Hemingway St was sold to Donnellan, Mark by Hemingway Rt and Asaro, Frank J for \$1,100,000 on 04/17/25

5 Pine St was sold to Price, Karl D and Price, Dana J by Howes, Joshua R and Howes, Leslie M for \$2,350,000 on 04/15/25

7 Rangeley Rd was sold to Henson, John and Henson, Bridget by Hazard, Sebastien and Hazard, Ingrid for \$2,500,000 on 04/18/25

WOBURN

20 Barbara Cir was sold to Spinosa, Brad by Kelly Ft and Heimlich, Ann M for \$775,000 on 04/15/25

Highland At Vale Condo #3202 was sold to Basile, Sabrina by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$650,250 on 04/17/25

Highland At Vale Condo #3211 was sold to Demaio, Raymond J and Demaio, Michelle

B by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$668,875 on 04/16/25

Highland At Vale Condo #3213 was sold to Ming Lee Rt and Lee, Kin M by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$919,900 on 04/18/25

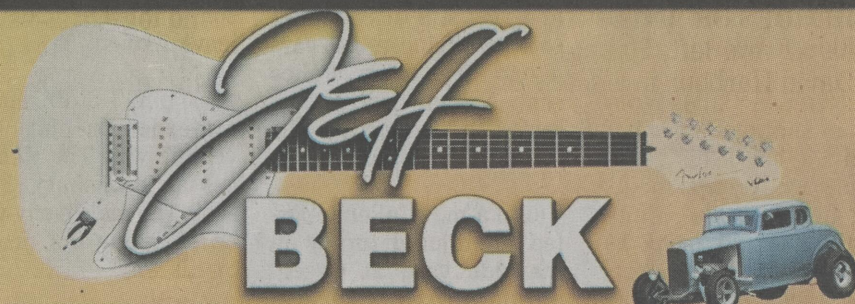
Highland At Vale Condo #3107 was sold to Nikiforenko, Alexander and Nikiforenko, Olinda by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$848,330 on 04/16/25

Highland At Vale Condo #3201 was sold to Wu, Jun by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for \$901,215 on 04/18/25

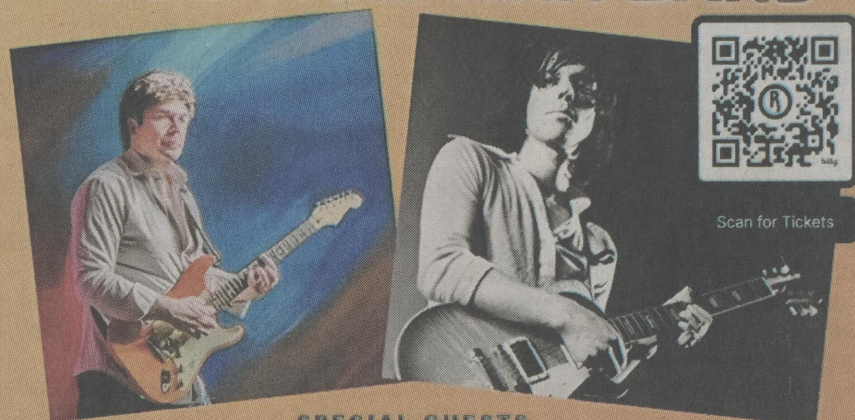
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Tewksbury Police Log

Owl hit by car in Walgreens parking lot flies away

Monday, April 28

1:10 a.m. - Guy outside wearing a hoodie yelled at picnic table at Colonial Place. Unknown what he was yelling about. Male was alone and near the dumpster. No vehicle was near him and he was talking to someone on the phone. Police sent. Male was waiting for a ride and having a loud conversation on the phone. He was told to quiet down.

11:33 a.m. - Caller reported an unwanted male party living out of his van at Circle K. He also had a dog tied to a tree. Caller would like the party removed from the property. Police sent. They gave advice to the the management for how to trespass someone.

12:57 p.m. - Police sent on a tip received for suspicious activity on the area of Newton Avenue. Parties advised.

1:41 p.m. - School maintenance reported a break-in over the weekend at Trahan School. Police sent with a detectives. Officer filed a report.

6:58 p.m. - Caller reported a white male wearing dark sweatpants and a white shirt was caught stealing and was now wan-

dering around the parking lot at Market Basket north. Police sent. They could not locate the individual. The store did not want to press charges. The police checked the area, and vehicle was gone on arrival.

Tuesday, April 29

5:31 a.m. - Caller reported owl in the road near Walgreens got hit by a car and was still alive. Caller soon by trying to get cars not to hit it again. Police sent. Animal Control contacted and responded. The owl ended up flying away.

10:36 a.m. - Caller reported an injured turkey in the side yard at Greenmeadow Drive that had been there for a few days. Animal Control was notified.

4:39 p.m. - Animal Control requested an officer check the area for an injured raccoon at Parker Avenue. Police sent. Animal Control en-route. Officer filed a report.

Wednesday, April 30

8:42 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a male party was screaming at her staff at Extended Stay America. Male party was wearing red shirt with a facet. Police sent. They provided a courtesy transportation to

La Quinta in Andover.

11:59 a.m. - Caller reported a solicitor knocked in his door at Windsor. Caller reported he was on the do not knock list. The male was described as a black male on an electric scooter. Police sent. This party was not on the town approved solicitor list. Police reported he spoke with the male and his supervisor and the male was leaving town.

1:06 p.m. - Staff reported someone sleeping on a vehicle was The Residences at Tewksbury. Police sent. The male party would be changing his tire and on his way.

8:05 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a white truck, a Harley and another truck, were driving fast and doing burnouts at Georgia Road. Police sent. Vehicle were gone on arrival.

8:26 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious truck attached a box or motion sensor to the light post across the street at Overlook Drive. Police sent. That was them setting up a trail camera.

Thursday, May 1

12:59 p.m. - Caller reported two males going door to door at Autumn

Lane. Caller reported a Hispanic and an Asian male knocked on his door and the caller told them he was not interested. Caller was unsure what company they were with as both reportedly they told him they were not selling anything. Police sent. They checked the area and those parties were gone on arrival.

4:44 p.m. - A walk-in was being threatened at the police headquarters. Police sent. They spoke with the party. They spoke with the reporting party. No harassment occurred.

6:45 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked behind the water pump building with the window completely covered at Lodge at Ames Pond. Police sent. They confirmed he was just having a smoke because he couldn't smoke on the property.

7:55 p.m. - Caller reported a man attempting to break into cars in the parking lot at Ames Hill Drive. Suspect was described as a black male wearing all black with a black baseball hat. Caller stated male entered the building and then quickly went back outside. Male party was spoken to by the police. He was having issues with his cars and was looking in his own car for a jumper kit.

Friday, May 2

9:14 a.m. - Caller reported he was seeing a male with red shirt and blue shorts with bolt cutters and a hammer on his cam-

era across from Rogers Street attempting to cut down the camera. Police sent. They were marking a new trail. It was people from the town. The camera was untouched.

3:50 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a suspicious motor vehicle kept driving up and down with the driver possibly looking into mailboxes at Sesame Street. Police sent. They driver never left his vehicle.

6:45 p.m. - Caller reported a Hispanic male with a jacket and red baseball hat stumbling with a bottle of liquor at Bridge Street and South Street. Police sent. They checked the length of South Street and all the side streets. They could not locate the male.

Saturday, May 3

1:02 a.m. - Police out at Oscar Pinatas reported a fight. They sent for back up. They stated verbal argument. Officer filed a report.

2:43 a.m. - Fight in the back, unknown how many people were there and the caller doesn't think they had weapons at Main Street Commons. Police sent. There was no fight. Parties were in motor vehicle listening to music and talking over the music.

5:46 p.m. - Manager at Market Basket South reported there were two adults and three children in the entryway by the Hallmark side asking patrons for money and food. They were walking to a van in the parking lot. Caller reported he asked them to

move along and they refused to. Police sent. They parties were gone on arrival.

7:30 p.m. - Caller stated she got a call from an employee who stated there were three teenage boys possibly trying to get in at Knowledge Beginnings. It was unknown if the males were still on scene. Police sent. They checked the area and it was cleared.

10:40 p.m. - A 911 caller reported four or five people screaming and yelling at each other, "get off me, I'm going to punch you" at Regina S Drive. Police sent. No party just a couple of guys playing cornhole. Officer filed a report.

Sunday, May 4

5:24 a.m. - Male walked through backyards in the driveway at Walnut Road. Police sent. They reported male party with no trespass. Officer filed a report.

3:59 p.m. - Caller reported a two-car motor vehicle accident at John E. Smith Drive. Police and ambulance sent. Sean Phaneuf, 23, of 6 Cobleigh Drive in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, negligent operation of motor vehicle, leaving the scene of property damage, and vandalize property.

9:48 p.m. - Caller reported about six or seven people fighting outside the iHop. Police sent. Everything cleared. No one fighting upon arrival. They checked cameras. Officer filed a report.



Wilmington Police Log

Sword-wielding man tells police sword not real

Friday, April 25:

4:33 a.m.: A white 2021 Ram Promaster was involved in a motor vehicle accident on Ballardvale St. No injuries were reported, but the vehicle flipped over and a section of the road had to be closed off for a period.

1:42 p.m.: A manager at the Market Basket on Main St. reported that some panhandlers were giving staff a hard time and refusing to leave the property. Police spoke to a woman, who stated she was waiting for her husband to pick them up, and that they would move along.

7:26 p.m.: A gray 2009 Volvo S60 rear-ended a white 2017 Ford F350 on Shawsheen Ave. No injuries were reported, and no airbags were deployed.

Saturday, April 26:

11:25 a.m.: A black 2020 Hyundai Palisade hit a house on 19 Clark St. One woman inside the car was injured and taken by the fire department, and police called the family of homeowners to inform them of the situation.

2:04 p.m.: Robert T. Jones Jr. of 6 Mackey Road, in Wilmington, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and not having a valid inspection sticker. This followed a stop of his black 2010 Ford Explorer on Lowell St.

3:03 p.m.: A gray 2016 Ford Explorer and a blue 2020 Infiniti QX50 were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Main St. No airbags were deployed, but a caller reported possible injuries.

Sunday, April 27:

1:30 p.m.: A caller on Avalon Dr. reported that his red 2021 Nissan Altima was struck while parked unattended sometime between April 4-7, and the caller stated he believed in may have happened while it was parked at his house.

Monday, April 28:

2:34 a.m.: John Robert Campbell of 1624 Main St., Apt. #239, in Tewksbury, was arrested for OUI-Liquor over .08% and a marked lanes violation. This followed a stop of his black 2024 Chevy Trailblazer on

Main St.

8:51 a.m.: Sean Stanton of 22 Fletcher Road, in Woburn, was issued a summons for 2 counts of assault & battery. This followed a man walking into the police station and claiming he was assaulted.

10:18 a.m.: Jason Snyder of 908 Avenue I, in Bay City, TX, was issued a summons for leaving the scene of property damage and a state highway traffic violation. This followed a caller reporting a hit-and-run, with her blue 2017 Chevy

Tahoe and a white 2024 Dodge Ram 2500 getting into an accident on Main St, with the other driver driving away towards Tewksbury.

Tuesday, April 29:

2:07 a.m.: Carlito Vasquez of 60 Clarkwood St., Apt. #1, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, a miscellaneous motor vehicle equipment violation, and a marked lanes violation. This followed a stop of his red 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport on Ballardvale St.

3:19 p.m.: Police spotted an accident between a red 2010 Lexus RX and a gray 2009 Hyundai Accent on the Rt. 62 highway. State police handled the situation.

5:35 p.m.: A caller at Yen-

Wednesday, April 30:

5:20 p.m.: A caller on Chestnut St. reported that about 20 minutes beforehand, a Benevento's truck struck and damaged his neighbor's rock wall. Police spoke with Benevento's driver supervisor, who stated he will review truck routes and contact police with the involved truck and driver the next day.

7:00 p.m.: A white 2018 Jeep Wrangler rear-ended a white 2017 Subaru Crosstrek on the Rt. 62 highway. Police assisted with paperwork exchange.

9:54 p.m.: Two separate callers, one on Main St., and one on Williams Ave.,

reported seeing a man holding a sword. The man stated he was practicing his karate skills, that the sword was not real, and he was on his property the entire time, but police warned him he may face consequences if he keeps disturbing his neighbors.

Thursday, May 1:

1:37 a.m.: Matthew J Amentola of 71 Middlesex Ave., in Wilmington, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and operation of an unregistered motor vehicle. This followed a stop of his black 2002 Ford Super Duty near the Burger King on Lowell St.

8:42 p.m.: A caller reported that a man was sending his girlfriend threatening text messages.

Police chief, supt. issue warning about 'Senior Assassin' game

WILMINGTON — The following is a joint statement from Police Chief Joseph Desmond and Superintendent Glenn Brand regarding the student 'assassin' game that is played annually among seniors:

"The Wilmington Police Department has recently responded to several incidents that stem from the so-called 'Senior Assassin Game.' We want to reach out with an important message regarding the recent activities involving our high school

seniors, specifically playing the 'Senior Assassin' game.

"While we understand that this game is intended to be a fun, celebratory tradition for many seniors, it has raised significant safety concerns in the community. The nature of the game — involving water guns, ambush-style tactics, and sometimes late-night or early-morning pursuits — can easily be mistaken by bystanders or law enforcement as a real threat, leading to potentially

dangerous situations.

"Our officers have already received several calls from concerned residents who have witnessed suspicious behavior associated with the game. We urge all participants and parents to understand the real risks involved. A moment of confusion could have serious consequences.

"We ask our seniors to consider the broader impact of their actions and find safer ways to celebrate this milestone. We urge parents/guardians

to talk with their children about the risks and encourage responsible decision-making.

"We all want to see our seniors enjoy their final months of high school, but we also want everyone to stay safe and avoid any unnecessary dangers.

"As always, the Wilmington Police Department, working in partnership with the Wilmington Public Schools, is committed to protecting and supporting our youth and our entire community."

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Police respond to serious motorcycle crash

TEWKSBURY — Police Chief Ryan Columbus reports that the Tewksbury Police Department responded to a serious crash involving a motorcycle on Rogers Street Friday night.

On Friday, May 2, at approximately 7:45 p.m.,

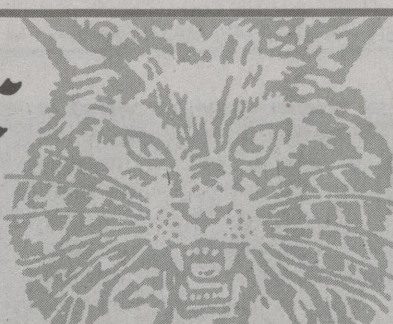
the Tewksbury Police and Fire Departments were called to the area of 144 Rogers St., for a report of a crash involving a motorcycle.

Officers arrived to find a single-vehicle crash in which a motorcycle left the roadway and struck

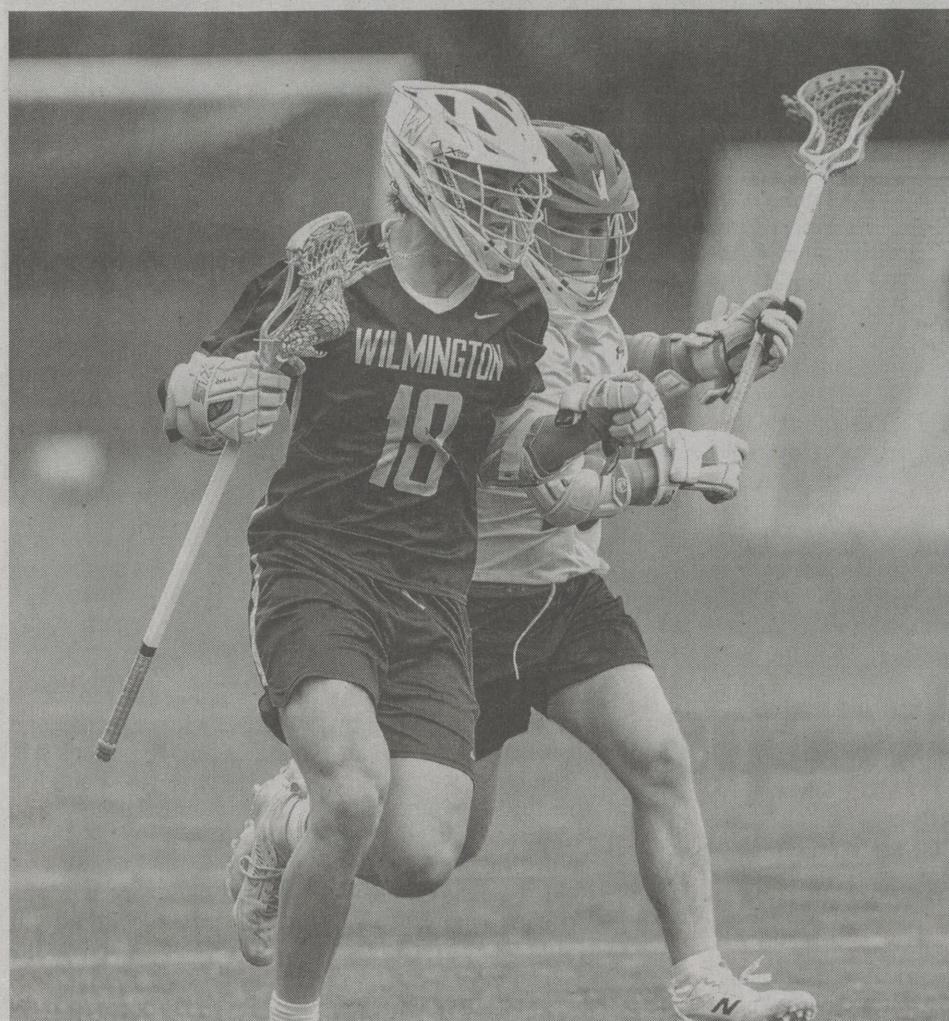
an embankment. Road conditions at the time were wet. There were no other vehicles involved.

A 45-year-old Billerica man suffered injuries that appeared to be serious. He was flown by medical helicopter to a regional trauma center.

The crash remains under investigation by the Tewksbury Police Department, with assistance from the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section and Crime Scene Services Section.



THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025



◀ Wilmington's Pat DeLucia, front, tries to get a step on Dante Cosco or Arlington Catholic during Monday's boys lacrosse game in Arlington. Wilmington fell, 14-6. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

▼ Wilmington's Anna Cavanaugh, left, looks to make a pass as she is defended by Tewksbury's Addison Tanguay during Thursday's girls lacrosse game. Wilmington fell 13-7 at home. (Credit Image: James Thomas)



▲ Colin Allard, left, of Wilmington fires a shot on net as he is pressured by Arlington Catholic's Ryan Porcaro during Monday's boys lacrosse game. Wilmington fell, 14-6. (Credit Image: James Thomas)



▲ Tewksbury's Madelyn Duggan, left, looks to get a step on Wilmington's Lindsay Broussard during Thursday's girls lacrosse game. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Wilmington High Lacrosse Roundup:

WHS GIRLS BEAT WAKEFIELD

By **DOUG HASTINGS**
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High lacrosse teams are entering the home stretch.

The WHS boys currently have a 3-9 record after a 14-6 loss to Arlington Catholic on Monday.

Last Friday, the Wildcats also lost to Belmont by a 12-6 score.

Last Wednesday, Wilmington earned its third victory of the year, 11-10, over Woburn.

Friday, WHS hosts Reading at 5 p.m. before visiting Pentucket Regional on

Monday at 4 p.m.

Monday, the Wilmington High girls lacrosse team beat Wakefield by an 11-6 score to improve its record to 8-7 overall.

The win ended a brief

two-game losing streak for the Wildcats, who lost by a 16-2 score to Belmont last Friday and 7-6 against Woburn last Wednesday.

The WHS girls play at Pentucket on Thursday at

5:30 p.m. and then host Melrose next Tuesday at 5 p.m.

THEY'RE STILL FIGHTING

Despite losses, Wilmington High baseball keeps competing

By **DOUG HASTINGS**
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High baseball team lost in recent action, falling to Belmont and Reading.

Last Friday, the Wildcats lost to Reading in a mercy-rule shortened game by a 13-1 score after six innings.

Junior Grady Ventura pitched all six innings for the Rockets, allowing just four hits, striking out five and walking one.

The Rockets led only 2-1 after three innings before erupting for three runs in the fourth, five in the fifth and three more in the sixth to put an early end to the game.

RMHS took a 1-0 lead in the first against Wilmington with three straight two-out hits.

Sam Clark singled to right, Isaac Robinson had a base hit to right and Alex Merkle scored Clark with a single up the middle.

Riley Learned walked to loaded the bases, but Wilmington starter JR Haggerty induced a ground ball to escape further damage.

After Wilmington tied it in the second, the Rockets made it 2-1 in the third.

Merkle doubled down the third-base line with one out and eventually scored on Jack Connelly's single to right.

In the fourth, RMHS started to pull away.

Merkle reached on an error in the outfield and Clark walked with one out. After a wild pitch, Robinson singled to left, scoring both teammates to make it 4-1. Learned smacked a two-out double to right to make it 5-1.

In the fifth, Nate Vitarisi singled and Camden Greatorex reached on an error to start the frame and Robinson walked with one out to load the bases.

Merkle made it 6-1 with a sacrifice fly before Learned was hit by a pitch to reload the bases.

Connelly drew an RBI walk, Ethan Greatorex was hit by a pitch and Cooper Dean drew a walk to score three more runs and make it 9-1. Vitarisi pushed the lead to 10-1 with an infield hit.

In the sixth, Merkle scored Mike Wondolowski with an RBI double, Robinson raced home after a wild pitch and Cam Harrigan drove in the final run with an RBI single.

In the Belmont game last Wednesday, Wilmington lost, 3-1.

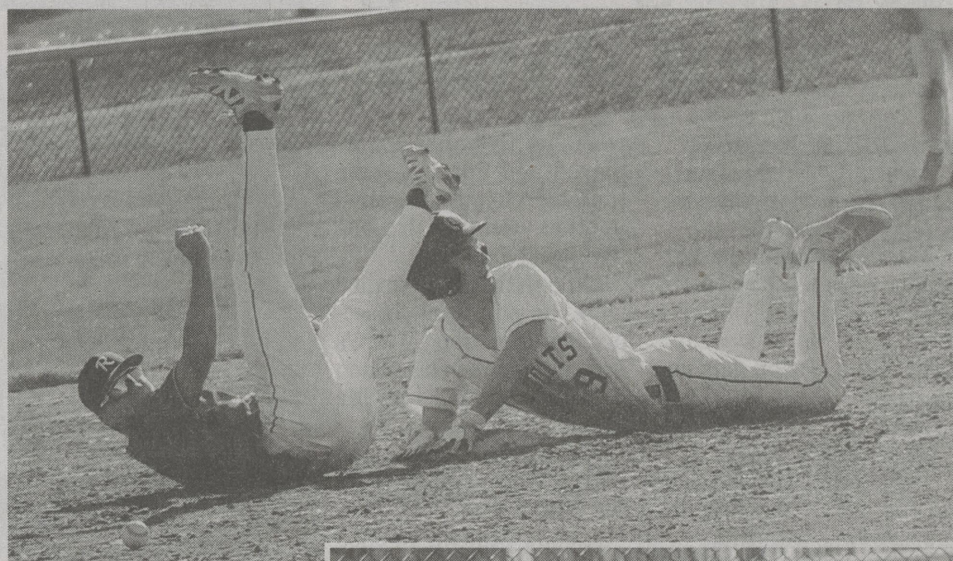
Down 1-0, the Wildcats (1-9 overall) tied the score in the top of the third.

With one out, Ayden Balter walked and went to second on a base hit by Roman Synnott.

After a wild pitch advanced both runners, Will Poyant scored Balter with a ground ball.

Wilmington had a few other chances to score.

WHS loaded the bases in the first when Theo Bryson singled, Balter reach-



▲ Andrew Almeda is safe at second base in action against Reading. (Doug Hastings photo)

► Connor Lovell had a big double last week against Belmont. (Doug Hastings photo)

ed on an error and Poyant was hit by a pitch before a strikeout ended the frame.

Connor Lovell hit a one-out double in the second and two-out singles by Julian Martins and Andrew Almeda in the fourth put two runners on base before Belmont escaped further damage.

The Wildcats loaded the bases again the fifth when Synnott and Noah Titterton were hit by pitches and Poyant walked.

Synnott pitched well for Wilmington, throwing six solid innings.





By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Girls tennis keeps on rolling

Wildcats handle Woburn and Wakefield

The Wilmington High girls tennis team had a nice week.

The Wildcats followed up a 3-2 win over Burlington with a 5-0 sweep of Woburn and a 4-1 victory over Wakefield.

In the win over Woburn, Wilmington dropped only one set, but still had to battle for a couple of victo-

ries.

At No. 2 singles, Alison D'Arco battled to victory in a close first set and then pulled away to win, 6-4, 6-0.

At No. 2 doubles, Sahana Puvanendrakumar and Shubhangi Tripathi won the first set of their match 6-4, then lost the second set by a 6-1 score. With the

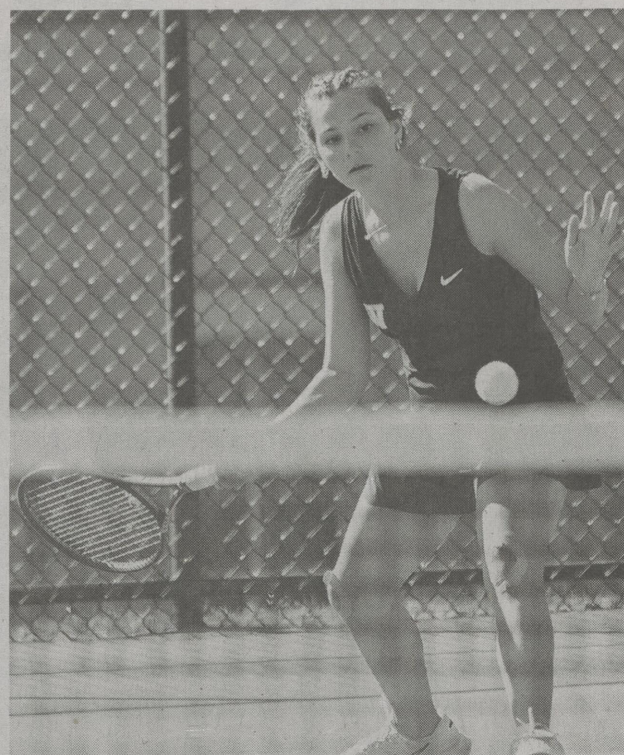
team result already settled, the teams played a tiebreaker instead of a third set and the Wildcat combination won the breaker, 7-4.

Veronika Loshak and Cara DiGiovanni have been an excellent No. 1 doubles team for Wilmington.

(Joe Brown photo)

Alison D'Arco pulled away for a win against the Tanners.

(Joe Brown photo)



Wilmington won its other two singles matches by 6-0, 6-0 scores as Savannah Beatrice won easily at the top spot and Jaslene Ryou didn't drop a game at third singles.

At No. 1 doubles, Veronika Loshak and Cara DiGiovanni won by scores of 6-1, 6-2.

The Wakefield match was closer, but still a convincing win for Wilmington.

Beatrice won 6-0, 6-1 at

first singles, D'Arco was a 6-3, 6-2 winner at second singles and Ryou took a 6-2, 6-1 win at No. 3 singles.

Puvanendrakumar and Tripathi were 6-2, 6-2 winners at second doubles.

Wakefield's lone win was at No. 1 doubles in a tight battle as Loshak and DiGiovanni fell, 6-4, 6-4.

The 'Cats have a busy week with matches against Stoneham, Reading and Belmont.

Boys tennis sweeps Woburn for third win

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High boys tennis team beat Woburn and lost to a solid Wakefield team last week.

Against Woburn, the Wildcats lost a total of just nine games in the five victories.

In singles, Wilmington had 6-0, 6-0 victories from Sanjeev Panendakumar at first singles and Nick Di Giovanni at third singles.

At second singles, Jay Karmani was a 6-0, 6-3 winner. At first doubles, Wilming-

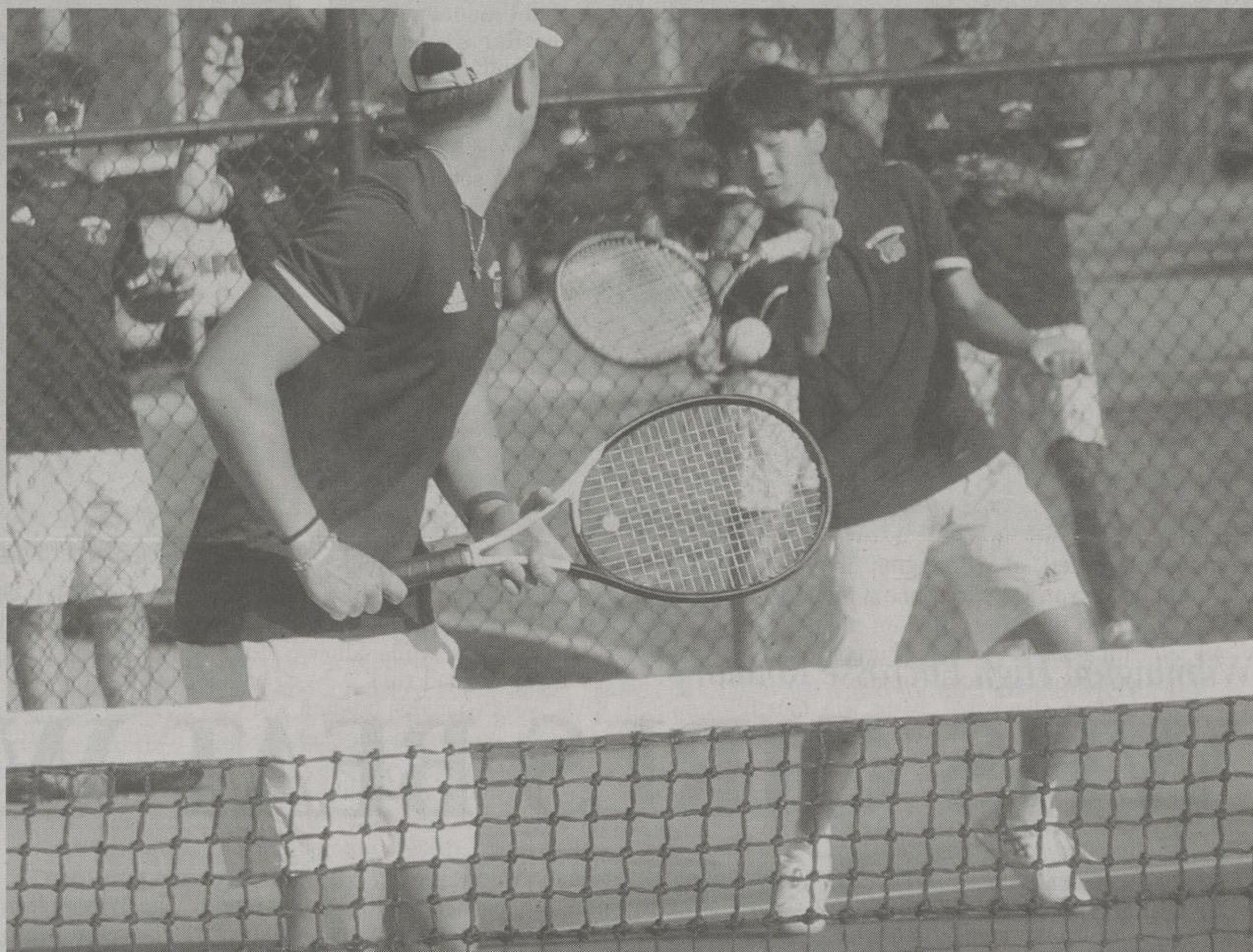
ton's tandem of Tyler Holland and Tony Cummings won easily, 6-1, 6-0 while Vinny Anastasia and Jeffrey Ryou cruised to a 6-3, 6-2 win at No. 2 doubles.

Against Wakefield, Holland and Cummings won 6-4, 6-4.

DiGiovanni had a terrific match at third singles, losing the first set 7-5 and taking set No. 2 by a 6-4 score before falling in a super tiebreaker to decide the match.

Karani lost at No. 3 singles, 6-0, 6-4.

WHS is 3-6 after its first nine matches.



► Jeffrey Ryou returns a serve against the Tanners.
(Photo by Doug Hastings)

Wilmington High softball wins seventh game

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

In recent action, the Wilmington High softball team went 2-1, moving its record to 7-5 as the second half of the season gets underway.

The Wildcats lost to Reading by an 8-2 score.

The 'Cats scored twice in the top of the first inning to take the lead.

Ali McElligott led off the game with a double and went to third on Evelyn LaClair's single.

Eva Boudreau scored the first run with an RBI grounder and Sara Keck made it 2-0 with a run-scoring double.

The Rockets bounced back with two runs in the first, second and fourth frames to lead 6-2.

McElligott had two hits for Wilmington while others included LaClair, Boudreau, Keck, Summer Sands and Sofia Tentindo.

Before Reading, Wilmington beat Lowell Catholic in an exciting game, 5-4.

Down 4-2 after five innings, the Wildcats scored once in the sixth and twice in the seventh for the walk-off victory.

Keck led off the seventh with a triple and scored on a grounder by Tentindo to tie the game.

With one out, Charlotte Forcina ended the game

when her fly ball was misplayed and Forcina eventually circled the bases on another fielding miscue by Lowell Catholic.

In the sixth, Sands singled with one out, went to second on Kiersten Moore's base hit and then scored on back-to-back walks to McElligott and LaClair.

In the third, LaClair and Olivia Raposa had RBIs for Wilmington.

Isabelle Maiella pitched a complete game for the Wildcats, earning the victory on the mound.

In a 7-3 win over Belmont last week, Keck went the distance on the mound, striking out 14 along the way.

The 'Cats scored five times in the second inning to take command of the game.

Keck and Forcina started the rally with singles before an RBI single by Sands. An error on a hit by Moore scored Forcina and McElligott made it 3-0 with an RBI single.

Moore eventually scored on a passed ball and McElligott came home on an error for a five-run lead.

LaClair hit an inside-the-park home run for Wilmington in the fourth, making it 6-0, and WHS added its seventh run in the fifth when Keck reached on an error, Tentindo singled and Sands hit a single to plate Keck.

Wilmington hosts Water-

town on Thursday at 6 p.m.

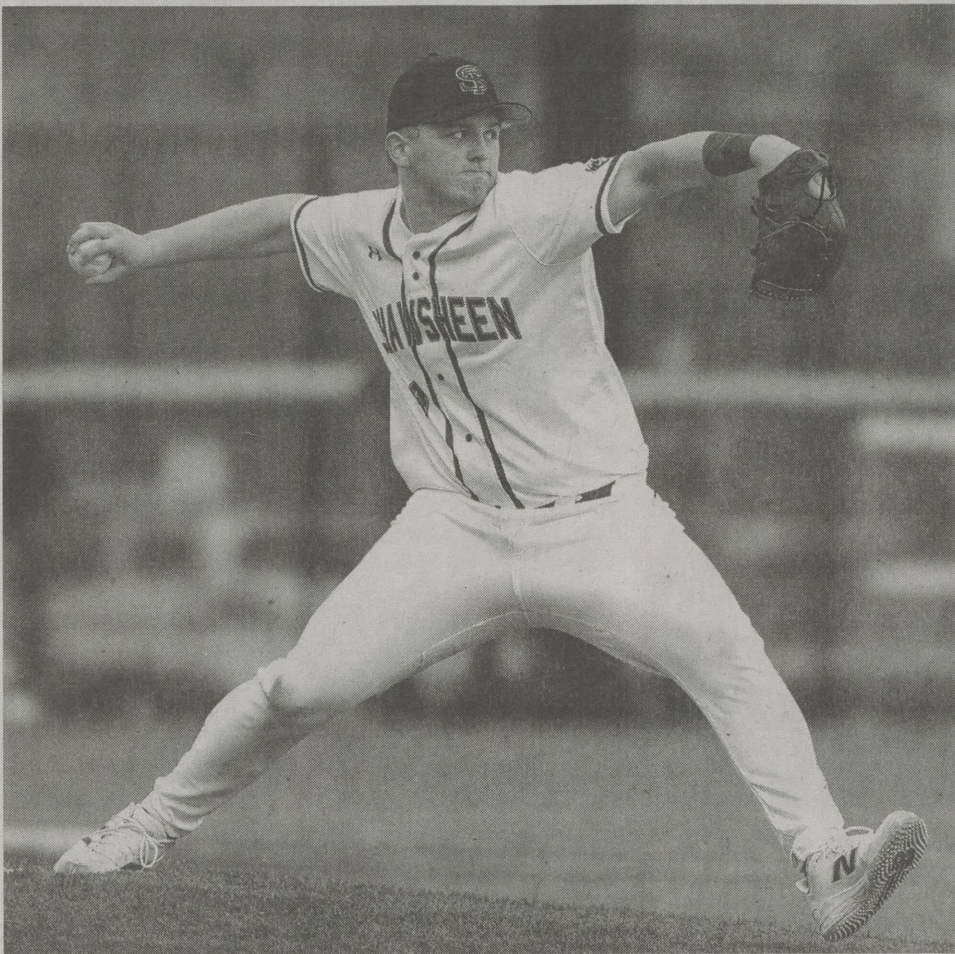
► Wilmington's Evelyn LaClair hits a fly ball to left field during Monday's softball game.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

▼ Tewksbury's Gabriella Davis, right, beats the throw to first as Sara Keck of Wilmington makes the catch during Monday's softball game.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)





▲ Shawsheen Tech's Will Trach delivers a pitch during Thursday's baseball game in Billerica. Shawsheen Tech won, 5-0 over visiting Dracut High School. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Baseball rallies to knock off Reading

Rams improve to 12-0 with another stellar defensive effort

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Still undefeated. The Reading High baseball team has enjoyed quite a spring. The Rockets almost added another feather to their cap on Monday, nearly knocking off undefeated Shawsheen Tech before eventually falling, 4-2. The Rams are 12-0 overall, but had allowed only five runs in their first 11 wins before Monday. RMHS scored twice in the top of the first inning to take a 2-0 lead before Shawsheen came back. The Rocket first inning started with a one-out walk by Kamden Greatorex and a single by Sam Clark. Isaac Robinson then clubbed a two-run double. Alex Merkle then singled to put runners on first and third, but Shawsheen star-

ter Will Trach escaped any further damage with a strikeout and a caught stealing. Shawsheen had two runners on base in the bottom of the first against RMHS starting pitcher Chase Williams as Robbie Welch hit a one-out single and Nate Galanis walked with two outs, but Williams cleanly fielded a grounder by Ryan Jamieson to end the inning. The Rams tied the game in the third. With one out, Dyllon Pratt reached on an error and Welch singled. After a strikeout, an error on a hit by Galanis plated Pratt. Jamieson then hit a single to score Welch and tie the game. In the fourth, Robinson reached on an error to start the inning for Reading, but a strikeout and a double play started by Pratt at shortstop for Shawsheen

ended the inning. The Rams took the lead in the bottom of the fourth. Trach hit a leadoff single and Adam Caruso followed with a two-out base hit. That set the stage for Pratt, who cleared the bases with a triple. RMHS went down in order in the fifth, but had a baserunner in the sixth. An error on a grounder by Greatorex with one out brought the tying run to the plate, but a fly out and a pop up ended the frame. In the seventh, a grounder, a line drive and a strikeout ended the game. Williams pitched well for Reading, throwing five innings, striking out five and walking one while allowing two earned runs. Ethan Lebovidge pitched a scoreless sixth for the Rockets. Trach was outstanding on the hill for Shawsheen, throwing all seven innings,



▲ Wilmington's Leah Murphy, right, moves the ball upfield as Ava Noble of Shawsheen Tech defends during Monday's girls lacrosse game. Wilmington battled to a 9-8 win at home. (Credit Image: James Thomas)



▲ Cera Salter, left, of Shawsheen Tech is pressured by multiple Nashoba Tech defenders during Thursday's CAC girls lacrosse game. Shawsheen Tech rolled to a 12-3 victory at home. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

striking out six and walking one. Reading had only three hits on the day, one each by Merkle, Robinson and Clark. Pratt and Welch had two hits apiece to lead Shawsheen's offense. Caruso, Trach, Jamieson and Will Holloway had other hits for the Rams. Before Reading, Shawsheen defeated Lowell Catholic by a 4-1 score. Cole Pellegrino was the winning pitcher for the Rams, pitching 6.2 innings and allowing only five hits. Welch called a solid game behind the dish according to Ram coach Brian McCarthy. Max Carpenter got the final out in relief of Pelle-

grino. The Rams scored twice in the first inning. Pratt opened with a double and then scored on an error. After another error, Galanis hit a sacrifice fly to make it 2-0. Jake Carr had an RBI single in the second, scoring Holloway, and Galanis added another RBI single in the third, scoring Gavin Poirier with a base hit. Poirier had reached on a triple earlier in the frame. Shawsheen hosted Greater Lawrence on Tuesday and visits Northeast Tech on Thursday. Saturday, the Rams visit Wilmington at 11 a.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE WINS

Shawsheen Tech's girls lacrosse team beat Greater Lowell by a score of 12-6 on Friday. Fiona Rexford had five goals for the Rams while Meaghan Warford had three goals, Jude Sloman had two goals and Brooke Newhouse and Cera Salter had one goal each. The win improved Shawsheen to 7-4 overall. Prior to Greater Lowell, Shawsheen lost to Tewksbury by a 10-7 score.

BOYS LACROSSE HAS 11-1 RECORD

With a 12-2 win over

Tewksbury on April 28 and other recent triumphs over Winthrop and Lowell Catholic, the Shawsheen Tech boys lacrosse team has an 11-1 overall record. Shawsheen trounced Lowell Catholic on Monday by a 17-3 score after edging Winthrop, 12-11. Against Winthrop, Mike Georgoulis had three goals and an assist to pace the offense while Bray Carbone also had three goals. Zack Timmons had a goal and four assists and Quinn Carbone had two goals and three assists as each Ram finished with a team-high five points in the victory. Josh Baker and Jack Martins also had one goal each for Shawsheen. Timmons has a team-high 20 goals and 15 assists this season to lead the Rams. Nate Malandain and Joe DaSilva have been outstanding in goal. Malandain got the victory in net against Winthrop. Bray Carbone had three goals in the Tewksbury victory while Jacoby Patterson, Martins and Georgoulis all chipped in with two goals apiece. Timmons, Quinn Carbone and Cam Banda had the other Shawsheen tallies. Malandain and DaSilva split the victory in goal.



◀ Shawsheen Tech's Dante DiGiovanni, right, scoops the ball off the turf as Cam Banda (11) of Shawsheen Tech battles Finn Hegarty (8) of Milton during Thursday's boys lacrosse season opener in Billerica. Shawsheen was a 6-4 winner. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Woburn Racquet Club hosting pickleball event

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

On Saturday, May 10, Woburn Racquet Club will host a pickleball tournament to benefit the Mission of Deeds in Reading. With questions about playing or sponsoring, please reach out to David McIsaac (david.mcisaac@missionofdeeds.org). There will be three options of play: 3.0-3.4 round robin and tournament, 3.5+ round robin and tournament, and a 2.0 - 2.5 beginner's clinic. The 2.0 - 2.5 Beginner's Clinic will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. with a maximum of 16 players. The cost is \$30 per person.

The event is led by Marjorie Berger. Berger has been organizing and teaching pickleball for the last 15 years around Metro North Boston. She is a USA Pickleball Ambassador working with others in Eastern, Mass. to promote and expand the game in towns and cities. Currently she works with local recreation departments, community centers and Woburn YMCA's to teach the basics of the game and strategies of play. The 3.0 - 3.4 Round Robin and Tournament will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at a cost of \$50 per team. Participants must sign up as a team. Open play. Teams can be mixed.

Both players must be same rating range. The 3.5+ Round Robin and Tournament will run from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at a cost of \$50 per team. Participants must sign up as a team. Open play. Teams can be mixed. Both players must be same rating range. Additional details: • Must be 18+ to register for any of the above events • Please wear court shoes (tennis or basketball; with a flat bottom) • For the round robin and tournament play, both players on a team must be in the rating range • All registrants must sign a waiver prior to play-

ing • These are not sanctioned tournaments. The goal is to have fun and support a cause. • All players will be required to sign waiver on May 10 prior to playing • Not sure of your rating? Check out USA Pickleball for a guide. The Mission of Deeds is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer-based organization located in Reading that gives beds, furniture, and basic household items, free of charge to those in need. For more information on the Mission of Deeds, email info@missionofdeeds.org or call 781.944.9797. To contact Woburn Racquet Club, call 781-933-8850.

MISSION OF DEEDS

Pickleball Tournament

Saturday May 10th
WOBURN RACQUET CLUB
TENNIS PICKLEBALL

Mission of Deeds is a volunteer-supported nonprofit that gives new beds and gently used donated furniture, kitchen items, and basic household goods, free of charge, to people leaving homelessness and others in great need.

Lifestyle

Celebrate Mother's Day surrounded by NATURE

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

Sunday, May 11, 2025 is Mothers Day.

For those looking to take a memorable Mother's Day day trip that won't break the bank, consider a visit to the big City of Boston for a little up close and personal time with the world-renowned Mother Nature.

No, you did not read that incorrectly, but it is surprising that a trip to the hustle and bustle of a major city could possibly get you in touch with nature, but it is true.

Boston has several hidden, natural gems that will overcome you with natural floral beauty that is in bloom just in time for your Mother's Day celebration.

There is no better way to spend Mother's Day than to be surrounded by the sweet fragrance of blooming Lilac.

This Mother's Day, consider a trip to The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, located at 125 Arborway in Boston, to experience Lilac Sunday.

Lilac Sunday has been a springtime tradition at the Arboretum since 1901, celebrating the short but wonderful season of spring and spring flowers, in particular, the lilac.

Located in the heart of the Arboretum landscape, visitors will find a premier collection of Lilac plants, offering thousands of fragrant blooms.

Along with the Lilacs, the Arboretum has thousands of other plants on display, many of which will also be in full bloom, making for an enjoyable stroll throughout the entire grounds.

In honor of Mother's Day, the Arnold Arboretum is permitting picnicking on Lilac Sunday for this day only.

This one day picnic permit is to encourage families to stay and enjoy the day with mom, surrounded by Mother Nature's beauty.

Guests are welcome to take a self-guided tour, but guided Lilac tours are available and depart between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the base of the Lilac collection.

Tours of the entire arboretum are also available, and depart on the half hour from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. from the Arborway Gates.

Admission is free, and the Arboretum is open daily, but due to the popularity of this event, be advised that parking is very limited, so visitors are strongly encouraged to use public transportation when visiting on Mother's Day.

For more information on Lilac Sunday, visit www.arboretum.harvard.edu.

The only thing better than spending Mother's Day surrounded by beautiful flower gardens is the addition of adorable ducklings.

On May 11, 2025, the Boston Public Garden is celebrating the classic children's book, *Make Way For Ducklings*, by Robert McCloskey, with an annual event known as Duckling Day.

This family friendly event is held every year on Mother's Day in the Boston Common, and features activity booths, games, magic shows, and live music.

The day's event ends with the traditional Duckling Parade, which traces the steps of the book's mother duck character, Mrs. Mallard, and ends at the *Make Way For Ducklings* statue, which



▲► There is plenty of natural floral beauty and Mother's Day fun to be had during Duckling Day at the Boston Public Garden and the Boston Common. (Heather Burns photos)

is permanently displayed in the Public Garden.

Admission for Duckling Day festivities is \$35 per family, and participants must register in advance online at www.friendsofthepublicgarden.org.

For those looking for a little less "ducky" activity, the Boston Public Garden is free for the public to explore.

The Spring Tulip Display really makes the Public Garden and the Common come to life with bursts of spring colors from thousands of blooming tulips. Tulip blooms are on display from late April until mid-May.

Although tulip blooms will be nearing its end by Mother's Day, you will not be disappointed as the Public Garden also offers blooming magnolia, rhododendrons, lilacs, and peonies to brighten your Mother's Day visit.

As always, the famous Swan Boats will be gliding through the placid water features of the Public Garden.

A peaceful ride on these iconic Swan Boats is worth its weight in gold, offering a few moments of tranquility and serenity for busy families.

While in the city, don't

miss the hidden gem of Louisburg Square in Beacon Hill.

From late April until mid-May, make time to take in some local wisteria in full bloom.

This hard to find spring plant adds a hint of romance to Beacon Hill's historic architecture as the purple blossoms cascade over many of the area's elegant homes, making for a relaxing atmosphere to take a Mother's Day stroll.

Technically just outside of Boston in Boylston, you will find The New England Botanical Garden, which always has something special in bloom, and Mother's Day is no exception.

During the month of May, NEBG boasts a display of many flowering trees and shrubs, such as dogwood, rhododendron, viburnum, and of course, lilacs.

A visit this Mother's Day will also allow you to catch the tail end of tulip season while grasping a sneak peak of the beginning of iris season.

There is also a display of old school spring favorites like Pink Lady Slippers and Virginia Bluebells.

Your garden exploration



includes formal and natural gardens, walking paths, trail walking, and the conservatory.

While you are there, enjoy expansive views of the Wachusett Reservoir, as well as the Garden Shop and Cafe.

The New England Botanical Garden is open daily, including Mother's Day, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at the door, however it is highly recommended to make re-

servations online during the busy Mother's Day weekend.

To make reservations to the New England Botanical Garden, visit www.nebg.org.

This Mother's Day, surprise mom by making an unexpected trip into the city to view the natural beauty that lies in the "hidden" gardens of Boston. A trip that will surprise and delight all, will also be a cherished Mother's Day memory for years to come.



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HONDA

OBITUARIES

Casey Anthony Canevari Had a love of travel and outdoors

It is with profound sadness that the family of Casey Anthony Canevari, age 43, of Wilmington announce his peaceful passing as he was surrounded by love from his family.

Casey will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 18 years, Christine Canevari, and their children Parker (16), Connor (14), and Riley (9); his parents Dawn and Arthur Canevari of Warwick, NY; brothers Ryan Canevari of Warwick, NY and Christopher Canevari of Wilmington, NC, and first cousin Darrion Whalen (Kim Whalen) of Bethel, VT.

Casey's beloved extended family included his aunts and uncles: Dana Whalen, Dara Whalen, Jon and Julie Whalen, Robert Canevari, Renee and John Allen, Peter Canevari and Rose Skinner, Caroline and Eddie Vogel, Paul and Cyn-di Canevari; his cousins: Rachael Rutigliano (Kevin Hong), Jon Michael Whalen (Samantha Whalen), Samantha Rys, Justin Allen, Angela Ward (Varick Ward), Anita Allen, Raquel Vogel, Anthony Vogel, Nicholas Canevari (Sarah Canevari), Jacquelyn Rome (Paul Rome), Joseph Canevari (Reagan Parrelli), Paul Canevari, and Nicole Fritz (Donavan Fritz); and his in-laws Michael and Kim Boudreau, Dorothy Cullinane, and Michael and Mindy Boudreau.

Casey will be dearly missed by his life-long friend Fernando Pacheco, his friends from the Wilmington Hiking Club (527), his colleagues from Brand USA and throughout the tourism industry, and countless other friends from all chapters of his life.

Casey was predeceased by his grandparents: Peter and Marguerite Canevari, and Robert and Rita Wha-

len.

Casey was born and raised in Warwick, NY. He attended his first two years of college at the Johnson & Wales University North Miami campus and completed his bachelor's degree in travel and tourism management (2004) at the Providence campus where he met his wife, Christine.

Together, Casey and Christine started their post-college lives in Tampa, FL where they created an amazing home away from home with many friends and frequent visits to the east coast of Florida to visit his beloved Nanny and Auntie Dana.

Casey and Christine were married in Mystic, CT (2006) and had their first two children (Parker and Connor) while living in Tampa. In 2012, they brought their young family back to the Northeast to raise their children closer to family. They found home again in Wilmington and had their third son (Riley).

Casey was connected to the community through the Wilmington Hiking Club and gained many friends over the years through countless soccer games, boy scout outings, and track meets. Casey, Christine, and their boys loved to ski, play golf, and travel together. He would never turn down a nice glass of bourbon or a well-brewed IPA.

Casey's love of travel and the outdoors was weaved into his soul. He traveled to 30 countries both personally and professionally. He hiked all over the globe, most notably, Mount Washington five times, and was working on accomplishing the 48 NH White Mountains 4,000 foot peaks. He cherished the U.S. National Parks and together as a

family they had visited more than a dozen.

Casey's career in the travel and tourism industry was highlighted by his work for Visit St. Pete Clearwater marketing the beautiful west coast of Florida and at Audley Travel where he shared his love and passion for Africa.

In 2022, Casey earned his Masters in Tourism Administration from George Washington University, an achievement he was extremely proud of. Most notably, Casey was Director, Global Trade Development (Canada) at Brand USA where he cultivated and maintained relationships with U.S. tourism partners in the Canadian market.

Casey truly loved the work he was doing with Brand USA and was damn good at it!

Casey loved his family with all of his heart. He loved exploring the world. And he loved the people in this world. Everyone who knew him was drawn to his joy, his smile, and his infectious laughter.

A celebration of life will be held in Warwick, NY on Saturday, May 10 at Mount Lake Park (46 Bowen Road) from 3 - 6 p.m. Casey will be eulogized at 4 p.m. All are welcome.

A second celebration of life will be held near Casey's home on May 24 in Wakefield at the Lakeside Inn (595 North Ave.) from 1 - 4 p.m. Memories will be shared at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Casey's name to the Epilepsy Services Foundation in Tampa, Florida, where Casey served on the board of directors from 2009-2011: <https://epilepsysf.org/donate/>.

Joan W. (White) Hayden Had a great sense of humor

Joan W. (White) Hayden, a beloved wife, matriarch and cherished friend, passed away peacefully on May 2, 2025, surrounded by her six children.

Born on Jan. 28, 1937, in Medford, Joan was the second of three children of the late Leonard and Winifred (Hurley) White. A 1956 graduate of Medford High School, her life took a beautiful turn when she began working at First National Stores Inc. It was there she met Richard "Dick" Hayden, the love of her life. Their shared fondness for music, dancing, and good company sparked an immediate connection.

Married on June 30, 1962, Joan and Dick established their family home in Wilmington in 1966, where they poured their hearts into raising their six children. During Dick's early career and studies, Joan was the steadfast anchor of their growing family.

She instilled in her children the fundamental values of family unity and respect, ensuring that every commitment, from homework to sport practice or dance, was met.

Her home on Arlene Avenue was always open, a welcoming haven for her children's friends, as well as her nieces and nephews, her home was filled with laughter, pool parties, and her generous snacks.

A true friend with a loyal heart, Joan shared an especially close and entertaining relationship with her sister Lois. Their time working at Sears was a source of amusement for many, as "the sisters" effortlessly combined their work with animated conversations and personal shopping adventures.

Joan had a genuine curiosity about the lives of her friends and their families, always eager to share in their joys and offer support. She embraced life's simple pleasures but also delighted in adventures with Dick and their friends, from exciting travels and captivating musicals to her enthusiastic embrace of golf later in life.

She had a great sense of humor and enjoyed a good party — no matter the occasion. She never arrived

empty-handed sharing her famous pepperoni squares or congo bars. In quieter moments, she enjoyed Hallmark movies, a good book, and the occasional thrill of the slot machines.

For many years, Joan dedicated her time and energy to the Wilmington Boosters Association as Vice President. She enjoyed working the snack shack for football games and the 4th of July Boosters tent for many years to raise funds for WHS Boosters Scholarships.

She passed that sense of volunteerism on to her kids as well. In later years, Joan was active in the St. Thomas Woman's Club, attending various events and appreciating the time spent with the other members.

Her greatest joy came with the arrival of her 18 grandchildren. Joan and Dick became enthusiastic supporters, rarely missing a sporting event, dance recital, school performance or first day of school milestone.

Hosting lively family gatherings by the pool, complete with an abundance of snacks and ice cream, was one of her favorite pastimes. Never one to seek attention, Joan was happiest simply being surrounded by her family, her face beaming as she listened to their stories and shared in their laughter.

Her enduring legacy will be the strong, supportive family she nurtured and the cherished traditions that will continue to celebrate their lives together.

Joan will be profoundly missed as a wonderful woman, the heart and soul of her family, and a cherished friend whose memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Joan was the beloved wife of the late Richard "Dick" Hayden, devoted mother of Michele and Byron Kincaid (Wilmington), Laurie & Dennis Robarge (Wilmington), Andrea & Eric Brasciska (N. Andover), Richard & Maureen Hayden (Wilmington), Jennifer & Eric Cushing (Wilmington) and Jacqui & Tim Allard (Wilmington).

She was the Loving "Nana" of Jonathan Kincaid & wife Marion, Matthew Kin-



caid & wife Kristin, Zachary Kincaid, Nicholas Robarge & wife Meaghan, Hayley Elmy & husband Kyle, Caroline Robarge, Christian Robarge, Allyson, Meghan & Kyle Brasciska, Emily, Melanie & Ryan Hayden, Shea, Owen & Luke Cushing, Colin & Emma Allard and her great-grandchildren Ben, Jonathan, Jake and Jackson Kincaid, Cameron Robarge and Leah Elmy.

She was the dear sister of the late Lois & Richard Jackson and Leonard & Maureen White (Burlington) and sister-in-law of James Hayden & wife Carol (Stoneham) and the late Edie Previdi & husband Bill (Gloucester), daughter-in-law of the late Mary Hayden.

She is further survived by many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather for Visiting Hours at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rte. 62), Wilmington, on Wednesday, May 7 from 4-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass to celebrate Joan's life will be held at St. Thomas of Villanova Church, 126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, on Thursday, May 8 at 10:30 a.m. followed by her interment in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington. (please go directly to the church)

In lieu of flowers, donations in Joan's memory may be made to The Parish of the Transfiguration Women's Club, and mail to St. Dorothy's Church, c/o The Women's Club/Kathy Catanzano, 11 Harnden St., Wilmington, MA 01887 or to the Wilmington Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 368, Wilmington, MA 01887.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Wilmington to receive \$150,000 for MWRA connection

BOSTON — The Healey-Driscoll Administration awarded \$950,000 in grants to help five communities enhance their public water supplies, improve water availability, and remove per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from drinking water. PFAS, or "forever chemicals," are persistent and harmful chemicals that can cause adverse health outcomes. The grants, administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP), will help maintain and improve access to clean and safe drinking water for communities in the Ipswich River Basin.

"The Ipswich River Watershed serves as the drinking water source to more than 350,000 people in nearby communities," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "The Healey-Driscoll Administration is committed to supporting our public water suppliers and protecting this resource."

"This funding will provide communities with the tools they need to design and construct infrastructure to preserve current water supplies, build interconnections to share neighboring supplies, and address PFAS contamination," said Mass DEP Commissioner Bonnie Heiple. "The Ipswich River Basin has unique drinking water challenges and we are committed to supporting communities in addressing harmful PFAS in our drinking water."

This is the second year for this grant program, which aims to guide water management in the Ipswich River Basin for both the long-term water supply needs of communities and the protection of the aquatic ecosystems. The following communities and water suppliers were awarded funds this year:

Modeling and Connection to Salem Beverly Water Supply Board (SBWSB) by Hamilton and Wenham — \$279,775

This project consists of conducting computer simulations to identify possible limitations of wheeling a portion of SBWSB's water supply through Wenham and up to the new connection with Hamilton, the bidding process for a new interim water supply connection between Hamilton and Wenham to obtain supply from the SBWSB, conducting a pilot study on recommended treatment strategies for removing PFAS from Wenham's two groundwater sources, and recommending the most favorable treatment strategy for Hamilton's School Street well.

MWRA Connection Town of Wilmington — \$154,208

This project consists of completing the planning and design of a booster water pump station to increase the capacity of the Town's MWRA connection so that Wilmington can supply MWRA water up to their maximum daily demand.

PFAS Treatment Town of Ipswich — \$370,000

This project consists of providing 30 percent design documents for a new Ipswich Water Treatment Plant (WTP), consisting of final design criteria, preliminary drawings, an outline of technical specifications and a preliminary opinion of probable construction costs. The new WTP is being designed with capacity to treat additional sources of varying water quality and quantity in the Parker River Basin, which will improve the opportunity to reduce the Town of Ipswich's reliance on its Ipswich River Basin sources. This project also funds monitoring associated with Ipswich's proposed Lynch wells.

Construction of an Alternative Source Interconnection Lynnfield Center Water District (LCWD) — \$138,160

This project consists of reimbursement of funds spent on completing the design, the bidding and award of a contract to connect the Wakefield and LCWD systems, and the funding to assist LCWD in applying for and meeting the requirements of MWRA membership, including all necessary certificates and permits.

For more details on the grant projects for 2025, please visit Ipswich Water Supply and PFAS Grant online.

In Tewksbury

Missing boy recovered from Merrimack River

LOWELL — Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan, Lowell Police Superintendent Greg Hudon and Massachusetts State Police Colonel Geoffrey Noble have confirmed that the body of 4-year-old Azriel Lopez of Lawrence was recovered from the Merrimack River in Tewksbury. Around 9 a.m. an off-duty Lieutenant with the Massachusetts State Police who was on the river in his personal boat, located what appeared to be a body in the water near the Trull Brook Golf Course in Tewksbury.

The Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit and Dive Team, responded to the scene and were able to recover the body that has been tentatively identified as Azriel Lopez. Tewksbury, Lowell and Methuen Police Departments along with the Massachusetts State Police A-Troop Detectives assisted in the recovery of the body.

The 4-year-old has been missing since Saturday, April 19, when he accidentally fell into the river.

Immediately following

reports that the child had fallen into the river multiple agencies responded to search for Azriel Lopez. That search included the Lowell Police Drone Unit and Massachusetts State Police Airwing which used infrared to search and the Massachusetts Environmental Police who used sonar and side-scanning sonar. Additional agencies that have been involved in the ongoing search for the missing boy in the Merrimack River are listed below.

- Lowell Police Patrol Division
- Lowell Police Detective Division
- Lowell Police Drone Unit
- Lowell Police Clinician
- Lowell Fire Department
- Lowell Fire Department Dive Team
- Massachusetts State Police Dive Team
- Massachusetts State Police Drone Unit
- Massachusetts State Police Air Wing
- Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit
- Massachusetts Environmental Police

ronmental Police

- Dracut Police Department
- Tewksbury Police Department
- NEMLEC Drone Unit
- Middlesex District Attorney's Office
- Massachusetts Department of Fire Services
- Methuen Police Department
- Methuen Fire Department
- Lawrence Police Department
- Lawrence Police Department Marine Patrol Unit
- Lawrence Fire Department
- Framingham Police Department Dive Team
- Boston Fire Department
- Cambridge Fire Department
- District 14 Fire (26 Firefighters and 5 boats launched from towns including Lincoln, Natick, Ashland, Hudson, Westborough, Framingham, and Hopkinton)

This case will be referred to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. No foul play is suspected.

ALL INCLUSIVE OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Large second-floor office space in the heart of Wilmington with easy access to The Commuter Rail and minutes from all major highways. This space would be ideal for a lawyer or a tax professional.



20 MIDDLESEX AVENUE

VISIT NORTHEASTERNDEVELOPMENT.COM/RENTALS FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Over 25 years in business

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. M125C0485CA

In the matter of:
Keighla Marie Ganier

A Petition to Change Name
of Adult has been filed by
Keighla Marie Ganier of Wilm-
ington, MA requesting that the
court enter a formal Decree
changing their name to: Keighla
Marie Ganier Dalton

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for pur-
poses of objecting to the petition
by filing an appearance at:
**Middlesex Probate and Family
Court before 10:00 a.m. on the
return day of 05/27/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but
a deadline by which you must
file a written appearance if you
object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug
Cafazzo, First Justice of this
Court.

Date: April 28 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,

Register of Probate

250485

5/8/25

LEGAL NOTICES
ARCHIVE

All published legal
notices are posted to the
Massachusetts Public
Notices website.

To search the archive
of previously published
legal notices go to:

www.homenewshere.com
OR
masspublicnotices.org
/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 140,
Section 137C, Section 7 of the
Wilmington Health Regulations
and the Inhabitants By-laws of the Town
of Wilmington, notice is hereby
given that a Public Hearing will be
held in Town Hall, Room 9, 121
Glen Road, Wilmington MA, 01887
on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 5:45
p.m. to discuss the application for a
kennel license d/b/a Sandlot Dog
Day Care, LLC, 296 Shawsheen
Ave, Wilmington, MA.

250489

5/8/25/25

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF WILMINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS

REQUEST FOR SERVICES

OWNER'S PROJECT
MANAGEMENT SERVICES
WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

The Town of Wilmington, ("Owner")
is seeking the services of a
qualified OPM "Owner's Project
Manager" as defined in Mass-
achusetts General Laws Chapter
149, Section 44A½ and as fur-
ther defined by the provisions of
this RFS, to provide Project
Management Services for the
design, construction, of the Wilm-
ington Elementary School
("School") in Wilmington, Mass-
achusetts ("Project").

Subject to the approval of the
Project by the Massachusetts
School Building Authority (the
"MSBA"), the Owner is request-
ing the services of an OPM to
represent the Owner, providing
Project Management Services
through design development,
construction documents, bid and
award, construction and final
closeout of the potential Project.
The estimated total project costs
of an approved potential Project
is estimated to be
\$173,250,626.00 depending
upon the solution that is agreed
upon by the Owner and the
MSBA and that is ultimately ap-
proved by a vote of the MSBA
Board of Directors.

A non-mandatory informational
meeting and site inspection will
be conducted on May 13, 2025
@ 10:00 am starting at Wilm-
ington Town Hall 121 Glen Road,
Wilmington, MA 01887 in Room 9
followed by a site visit of the

North Intermediate School
grounds, 320 Salem St, Wilm-
ington, MA 01887.

The complete RFS may be
obtained on May 8, 2025,
electronically by visiting the Town
of Wilmington website [https://
www.wilmingtonma.gov/
purchasing-department](https://www.wilmingtonma.gov/purchasing-department).

Sealed proposals clearly labeled
"Owner's Project Management
Services for Wildwood Ele-
mentary School" will be re-
ceived in the office of the Town
Manager, R. Eric Slagle, Town
Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington,
MA until 2:00 P.M. on May 22,
2025.

Each respondent shall submit
one (1) hard copy of the re-
sponse to this Request for Ser-
vices (RFS) and one electronic
version in PDF format on a flash
drive. Each response shall clearly
identify the respondent's name
and business address. Late
responses will not be accepted.

All questions regarding this RFS
should be directed to the Dennis
Kelley, Superintendent of Public
Buildings, at [DKelley@Wilmington-
tonMA.Gov](mailto:DKelley@WilmingtonMA.Gov). Questions will be
accepted until May 15, 2025 @
3:00 P.M. The Town shall not be
responsible for responses arriv-
ing late due to couriers, deliver-
ies to wrong locations, express
mailing services etc. or any rea-
son whatsoever. Postmarks will
not be considered.

The Town of Wilmington does not
discriminate on the basis of race,
color, national origin, sex, reli-
gion, age or disability in employ-
ment or the provision of services.
The Town of Wilmington reserves
the right to reject any responses
of or any part thereof in response
to this RFS or take any other
action as the Town may deem to
be in its best interest.

R. Eric Slagle

Town Manager

250474

5/8/25

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

The Town of Tewksbury is solicit-
ing bids for the following:

ELLA FLEMINGS SCHOOL
INTERIOR AND SITE
RENOVATIONS
1503 ANDOVER ST,
TEWKSBURY, MA 01876

The scope of work includes, but
is not limited to, the interior and
site renovation of the historic Ella
Fleming School building. The
project involves selective demoli-
tion, MEPF system upgrades,
installation of a new lift elevator,
painting, door restoration and
replacement, new finishes, new
interior windows, resilient flooring
and acoustic ceiling tiles. Exterior
and site improvements include
paving, landscaping, utilities, and
drainage.

The estimated cost of the work is
\$3,400,000.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149
§44A-J and to minimum wage
rates as required by M.G.L. c.149
§§26 to 27H inclusive.

General Bidders must be certified
by the Division of Capital Asset
Management and Maintenance
(DCAMM) in the following cate-

gory of work, General Building
Construction and must submit a
current DCAMM Certificate of
Eligibility and signed DCAMM
Prime/General Contractor Up-
date Statement.

Filed Sub-Bidders must be certi-
fied by the Division of Capital
Asset Management and Mainte-
nance (DCAMM) in the trades
listed below and must submit a
current DCAMM Certificate of
Eligibility and signed DCAMM
Sub-bidder's Update Statement.

1. Acoustic Ceiling Tiles
(ACT)
2. Resilient Flooring
3. Painting
4. Waterproofing, Dampproof-
ing and Caulking
5. Elevators
6. Fire Protection
7. Plumbing
8. HVAC
9. Electrical

Bid Forms and Contract Docu-
ments are available online after
2:00PM, Wednesday, May 7,
2025 at www.Projectdog.com.
Enter Project Code 868638 in the
project locator box and select
"Acquire Documents" to down-
load documents. All plan holders
must have an active online ac-
count on www.Projectdog.com to
acquire documents and to re-
ceive project notifications.

Addenda, if issued, will be posted
to the Projectdog website and
shall be accompanied by e-mail
notification to every individual or
firm on record as having received
the Contract Documents.

This project is being
Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids
shall be submitted online at
www.Projectdog.com. Hard copy
bids will not be accepted by the
Awarding Authority. Tutorials and
Instructions are available online
at www.Projectdog.com. For
assistance, contact Projectdog
Inc. at 978.499.9014.

Filed Sub-Bids for this project will
be accepted from eligible bidders
until 2:00 PM, Wednesday, May
28, 2025 and will be publicly
opened, forthwith online.

General Bids for this project will
be accepted from eligible bidders
until 2:00 PM, Wednesday, June
11, 2025 and will be publicly
opened, forthwith online.

Each general bid and filed sub-
bid shall be accompanied by a
bid deposit in the form of a bid
bond, or cash, or a certified
check on, or a treasurer's or
cashier's check issued by a re-
sponsible bank or trust company,
payable to the Town of Tewks-
bury in the amount of five percent
(5%) of value of the bid. Bid
deposits will be dealt with as
provided in Massachusetts Gen-
eral Laws, Chapter 149, Section
44B.

Bids shall be made on the basis
of the Minimum Wage Rates as
determined by the Commissioner
of Labor and Industries, Pursuant
to the Provisions of Chapter 149,
Sections 26 to 27D inclusive of
Massachusetts General Laws, a
copy of which is attached to and

is made a part of the Contract.

Bidders' selection procedures
and contract award shall be in
conformity with applicable stat-
utes of the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts.

Performance and Labor and
Materials payment bonds in the
full amount of the contract price
will be required from the suc-
cessful bidder.

The Awarding Authority reserves
the right to reject any or all gen-
eral bids, if it be in the public
interest to do so, and to reject
any sub-bid on any sub-trade if it
determines that such sub-bid
does not represent the sub-bid of
a person competent to perform
the work as specified or that less
than three such sub-bids were
received and that the prices are
not reasonable for acceptance
without further competition.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE
VISIT:

Date and Time:
Tuesday, May 13, 2025,
at 10:00 A.M.

Address:
1503 Andover St,
Tewksbury, MA 01876.
Meet at the main entrance of the
School.

Attendance at this pre-bid con-
ference is strongly recommended
for parties submitting a bid.

250483

5/8/25



Sculpture display at Center Elementary

A special collaboration was on display recently at the Center Elementary School. TMHS art students created sculptures in clay representing monsters that CES students drew in their art classes. Teachers Ashley Sullivan and Jen Barbati brought the two schools together for the project. There were 128 projects in all and Sullivan said that the young elementary students will receive the kiln-fired artworks as a gift from the high school students. The TMHS students said that it was fun to bring the student drawings to life, and worked very carefully to capture every detail of the pictures. Sullivan said that the project was so successful, she'll do it again next year. Artwork will also be on display during the district-wide art show at TMHS in May.

▲ Art teachers Jen Barbati
and Ashley Sullivan brought
the CES and TMHS stu-
dents together in a collabo-
rative art adventure. CES
students drew a monster,
and the TMHS students re-
created their designs in
clay. Pictured: Jen Babati,
Ashley Sullivan, sophomore
Emma Delgado, sophomore
Zackary Heary, freshman
Daphne Tambi, and senior
Kennedy Pereria.
(Paige Impink photo)

► Dante Cicolini was very
excited to see his monster
brought to life by Maddie
Shakes. Shakes was impres-
sed with the detail in Cico-
lini's drawing and worked
to capture every detail in
her sculpture.
(Paige Impink photo)



New book, 'Tewksbury,'
coming soon

CHARLESTON, SC —
Arcadia Publishing is
pleased to announce the
publication of Tewksbury,
a new history of the area
by author Douglas Sears.

About the Book

In 1689, Chief Magis-
trate Waitstill Winthrop
appointed Samuel Hunt II
to build a blockhouse to
guard against Mohawk-
affiliated Indians from
Canada seeking to cross
the Merrimack River to
harm the English settlers
and the Praying Indians
of Wamesit.

The crossing Hunt guar-
ded is now known as
Hunts Falls. By 1734, on a

second attempt, Hunt and
41 settlers from around
his site petitioned the leg-
islature and succeeded
to incorporate Tewksbury
as a separate town from
Billerica.

Beginning as an agricul-
tural community, along
with fishing in the Merri-
mack, Shawsheen, and
Concord Rivers, indus-
tries such as dairies, tan-
neries, furniture making,
sawmills, blacksmith
shops, and even a soap
factory prospered during
the 1800s. Greenhouses be-
gan to spring up in the
late 1800s.

In the 1970s, Tewksbury
was deemed the Carna-

tion Capital of the World
for its production and cul-
tivation talents. In 1934,
at the town's 200th anni-
versary celebration, citi-
zens celebrated its begin-
nings and growth with
pride and patriotism.

Today, public art includes
figures from Tewksbury's
past by renowned resi-
dent sculptor Mico Kauf-
man.

About the Author

Rev. Douglas W. Sears,
JD, and Nancy Reed,
president and vice presi-
dent, respectively, of the
Tewksbury Historical So-
ciety, are longtime resi-
dents who have served on
several town boards.
Reed serves as Tewks-

bury's town historian.
The images in this book
are from the Tewksbury
Historical Society's col-
lection and other sources
as noted.

About Arcadia
Publishing

Arcadia Publishing is
the nation's leading pub-
lisher of books of local
nonfiction and rarely ex-
plored pockets of history.
Our mission is to connect
people with their past,
with their communities
and with one another.
Arcadia has a catalog of
thousands of titles explor-
ing the story of America
one city, state, or county
at a time.

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA 02114

CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE
POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

Docket No. SU24P1582GD

In the Interests of:
Alex Perez
of Tewksbury, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person

To the named Respondent and
all other interested persons, a
petition has been filed by Tewks-
bury Hospital of Tewksbury, MA
in the above captioned matter
requesting that the court: Expand
the powers of a Guardian of the
Respondent

The petition asks the court to
make a determination that the
powers of the Guardian and/or
Conservator should be expand-
ed, modified, or limited since

the time of the appointment.
The original petition is on file with
the court.

You have the right to object to
this proceeding. If you wish to
do so, you or your attorney must
file a written appearance at this
court on or before 10:00 A.M. on
the return date of 05/22/2025.
This day is NOT a hearing date,
but a deadline date by which you
have to file the written appear-
ance if you object to the petition.
If you fail to file the written
appearance by the return date,
action may be taken in this mat-
ter without further notice to you.
In addition to filing the written
appearance, you or your attorney
must file a written affidavit stating
the specific facts and grounds of
your objection within 30 days
after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceed-
ing may limit or completely
take away the above-named
person's right to make deci-
sions about personal affairs or
financial affairs or both. The
above-named person has the
right to ask for a lawyer. Any-
one may make this request on
behalf of the above-named
person. If the above-named
person cannot afford a lawyer,
one may be appointed at State
expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 30, 2025

Stephanie L. Everett

of Probate

250482

5/8/25

Wilmington remains out of compliance

MBTA FROM PAGE 1

Resident Joanne Shukis commented that the town wouldn't be gaining anything through compliance — not even affordable housing.

Kevin MacDonald added that part of the MBTA Communities Act was ruled unlawful per the Milton case.

Rob Fasulo said he preferred to see the town file for an exemption. He also said that the auditor's office has called this law an unfunded mandate.

Michael McCoy commented that "there's a big difference between country life and city life," stating that he was against compliance with the MBTA Communities Act because it applies the same rule to all MBTA communities.

Gary DePalma said that

he didn't think the state's regulation or oversight in this matter was fair.

Frank West questioned whether any of the units in this district would be affordable and stated his preference of the town filing an exemption.

Slagle provided that this would be done by filing litigation against the state saying that this is an unfunded mandate due to the potential for more housing to increase costs of infrastructure and other services.

Representative Dave Robertson commented that he supported the article and he trusted the Planning Board's proposal to field the zoning district requirements properly to keep the town developing as it has been.

Ben Soper clarified that the choice was whether the town wanted to go with this

district or allow the state to create the district with no input from the town. He suggested that this would take the power back into the town's hands.

Kristen Hudson said, "This proposal is a great workaround to avoid having to build too much."

She also mentioned that the state grants could help to pay for things like infrastructure needs with new development.

Joseph Jackson suggested that this zoning district would allow an easy, slow way of creating more of a "Main Street" feel.

Megan Coslick asked residents not to let their fear prevent them from considering the benefits of compliance, suggesting that the impacts would be incremental.

Charlie Dagley stated that

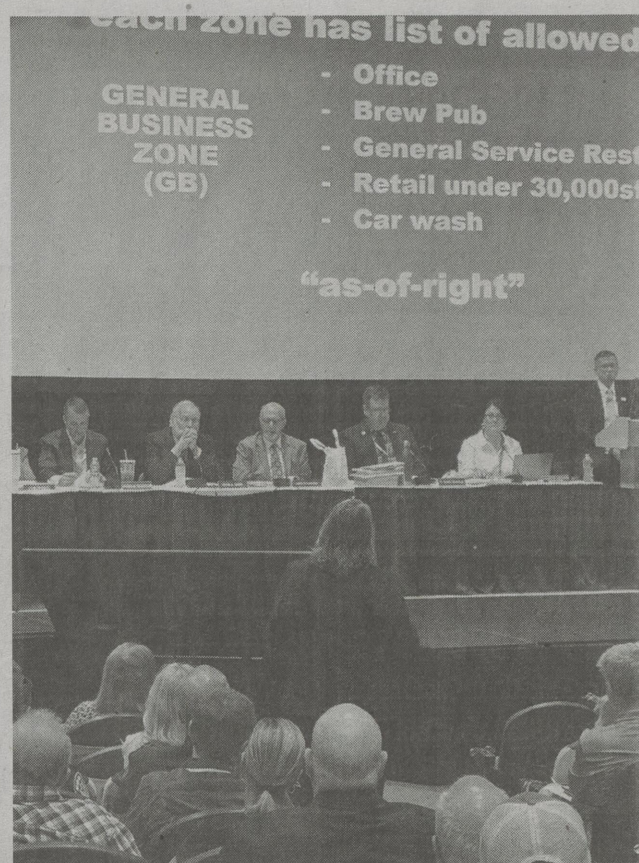
a no vote could lose the town up to \$50 million in state grants. Another resident suggested that this would allow minimal changes, and it would in fact retain the character of the town and allow future generations to be able to live in Wilmington.

The vote on the measure failed with 152 votes in favor and 162 votes against.

They, therefore, moved to pass over the second article of the special Town Meeting which would have added the new zoning district into the town's inclusionary zoning bylaw.

► Town Planner Valerie Gingrich explains to Wilmington residents once again the pros and cons of the MBTA Communities Act vote.

(KMG Howlett photo)



BUDGET FROM PAGE 1

by \$38,000 and the decrease in fuel heating expenses, they were seeing electric heating costs increase.

Slagle also previewed a long-term building plan for schools and municipal buildings. Though there would be a new debt exclusion for the new elementary school from 2026-2056, he saw that as the high school debt exclusion concludes in 2036, they could use the tax levy for a pre-kindergarten through grade five school on the west side of town then.

In 2056 as the north side school debt exclusion ends, they could pay for a new middle school in 2056 and a new high school in the 2060s. They would also start funding for the fire substation this year and continue its funding next year, preparing for a potential new DPW barn around 2028.

He stated that this budget was prepared with a long-term vision for the town in mind.

Resident Kevin MacDonald asked if the town's contracts stipulate that the contract is subject to approval by Town Meeting vote. KPILaw's Mark Reich replied that the contracts state that they are subject to appropriation.

John Tothe commented that he didn't think a 12.5% budget increase was con-

\$51.4M education budget passed

servative, although he said he understood the issues presented. He asked about the reasons certain salary line items were increasing between 8% and 12%.

Slagle restated that COLAs from 2025 and 2026 were both included, so if someone had step changes and two COLAs, that percentage change could equal around 8%.

Mark Nowacki asked about the increase in the town manager line item. Slagle said that this was in part due to the cost of expenses going up for things like printing, paper and binding.

Nowacki also asked about the expenses for the board of assessors, which Slagle said is increasing because this year the town has to reevaluate all town properties.

Geoff Howlett asked about the historical use of the town's free cash.

"I'm concerned that we're overspending in free cash as opposed to what we've done in the past," he said.

MacDonald asked if the town's free cash is built up when money is appropriated for expenses but not used. Slagle confirmed that this is the case. MacDonald therefore tried to make a motion that the budget increase between 2025 and 2026 be taken from free

cash, but the motion failed for lack of a second.

Each department budget was taken up by individual vote. The appropriation of \$4.5 million for total general government was approved. The total public safety budget of \$14.5 million was also approved.

Tothe asked why the fire chief salary line item saw a 14.5% increase. Slagle explained that the executive assistant to the fire chief had been removed from the union and been given a pay increase through negotiation.

MacDonald asked whether recent new hires had lowered overtime costs at the fire department. Fire Chief Bill Cavanaugh provided that they were down to \$1,050,000 last year from previous \$1.4 million and set to spend less this year.

They approved \$8.7 million for the total public works budget.

MacDonald suggested that the employee added to the public works department last year was redundant, but several other residents spoke to the necessity of the position for field maintenance.

Residents voted in favor of the budgeted \$971,000 for community development; \$6.3 million for public buildings; and \$2.5 million for

human services.

MacDonald asked why the town needed several veterans' officers. Veterans Services Director Lou Cimaglia answered that they serve over 2,000 veterans and receive back 75% of what they spend from the state.

The school budgets approved were \$51,423,526 for Wilmington Public Schools

and \$7,860,878 for the Shawheen Tech. Tothe suggested that they differentiate the athletics department costs more as it looks like the athletic director receives a salary of \$125,000.

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration Paul Ruggiero explained that this is also for coaches, referees, dues, medical supplies, and transportation.

The total approved amount

for maturing debt and interest was \$6,178,323; unclassified and reserved \$22,606,884; and statutory charges \$12,320,512.

Eaton thanked the Finance Committee members who reviewed the town department budgets through a series of meetings in the winter and spring along with four long-term town employees who are retiring, wishing them a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

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(Courtesy photos)

Wilmington students travel to the Galapagos Islands

WILMINGTON — Wilmington High School students traveled to the South American country of Ecuador over April vacation (4/17 to 4/25), touring the capital city of Quito as well as several islands in the Galápagos, a Pacific archipelago 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador.

These islands are home to a complex ecosystem filled with diverse and endemic plants and animals. Naturalist Charles Darwin was inspired by his observations of nature in these isolated islands and this is where he coined his Theory of Evolution by natural selection.

Spanish teacher Meghan Burns and science teachers Julie Kim, Michelle Hooper and Jessica Daly along with 26 of their stu-

dents spent nine days experiencing the vibrant culture of Ecuador. In Quito, located in the Andes Mountains at 9,350 feet above sea level, the students toured the city and observed religious processions on Easter Sunday.

They visited the Intiñan Equator Museum at Latitude Zero, where they learned about the Coriolis effect and participated in hands-on physics demonstrations to test the effects of being at the Equator, such as balancing an egg on the head of a nail and seeing in which direction water drains in the northern versus southern hemisphere and on the Equator line.

Ecuador is home to 34 active volcanoes, and in the Galápagos Islands,

the group hiked to the top of the Sierra Negra volcano overlooking its crater below. They visited the Charles Darwin Research Station and a tortoise breeding center, snorkeled with sea lions and sea turtles and observed wildlife up close — penguins, blue-footed boobies, iguanas, pelicans and flamingos. Students also had an opportunity to try local specialties such as empanadas, ceviche and cuy (guinea pig), and they visited the handicrafts market of Otavalo in the Andes region north of Quito where they were able to put their Spanish to the test.

WHS senior Domenic Guisti said: "As soon as I saw this trip get announced, I instantly knew that



this was the trip for me, a person who is intrigued by the natural world. There were a lot of firsts for me; first time on a plane, first time in a different country, first time away from my family. This trip was a once in a lifetime experi-

ence, and I'm so glad that I was able to immerse myself in a completely different, yet extraordinary place."

Sophomore Cooper O'Shea said: "This trip honestly changed my perspective on the world. Getting to

explore this beautiful country with my best friends is an experience that I will never forget. I have learned so much more than any class could've ever taught me, and that is such an amazing privilege."



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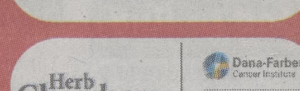
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